



KENT ON SUNDAY

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BREWERY BOSS SLAMS CALL TO BAN DRINK ADS

MP claims it is 'only way' to break link between alcohol and glamour of sport



RADICAL IDEA: Dr Howard Stoaite has called for a ban on advertising alcohol in sport

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

THE boss of a major Kent brewery says grassroots sports clubs in the county would be seriously damaged if a call for a ban on alcohol advertising is heeded.

Jonathan Neame, chief executive of Faversham-based Shepherd Neame, was speaking after a Kent MP called for the advertising restrictions.

Dr Howard Stoaite, Labour member for Dartford – and a GP – made the demand in an article for a Labour think-tank.

But Mr Neame said: "There is a series of government reviews going on about alcohol at the moment. One of them is called the Price Promotions Review. We understand the publication date for that is in September, so my immediate reaction is putting the cart before the horse."

John Paton, who runs the world-famous Lashings cricket team from a restaurant in

Maidstone, said they needed to keep their sponsorship deal with champagne maker Mumm.

He said: "If they left it would leave a big hole in our finances. It would also reduce our ability to take international cricketers to schools, colleges and clubs, which I think encourages fitness and exercise – which is what the Government wants."

"Calling for a ban of alcohol advertising is a nice easy one to jump on, but it needs to be thought through."

"If it prevents us helping kids into sport it is defeating the object of the exercise."

Cash

And Dave Whitehead, chairman of Thanet Wanderers rugby club, said they rely heavily on backing from Thorley Taverns.

"It would affect us badly if the company was forced to leave us," he said. "We need them for financial help in running the club for the whole year. We get a lump sum of cash, and help running the club bar. I would hate to see them forced out of the game."

Writing in the latest edition of the Fabian Review, Dr Stoaite, who is a member of the

WRONG MEASURE: Jonathan Neame says a blanket ban on drink advertising would damage sports clubs at grassroots level

influential Commons' health select committee, said more needs to be done to separate alcohol promotion and sport.

He said: "We need a more radical measure that will prevent alcohol companies from associating themselves with the excitement and glamour of professional sport and using it to boost their sales among the young in particular," he said.

"A complete ban on alcohol advertising or sponsorship within sport is the only way of achieving this."

He added there are "dozens of references to alcohol" during televised football matches.

"Carlsberg, who sponsor Liverpool, have become the most popular drinks brand in the country. Their Merseyside neighbours Everton are sponsored by Chang Beer."

"Carling not only sponsors the Carling Cup, but Rangers too. You see drinks firms' logos on team shirts, drinks adverts on hoardings

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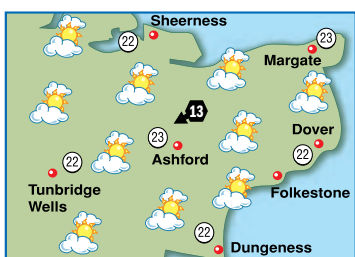
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Kent today



TODAY: Dry with sunny spells and variable amounts of cloud. Generally clear during the evening. Moderate north-easterly winds. Max temp 22-25C (72-77F).

TONIGHT: Dry with variable cloud cover and clear intervals. Moderate north-easterly winds. Min temp 10-13C (50-55F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	15	59	London	cloudy	22	72
Belfast	fair	24	75	Liverpool	fair	25	77
Birmingham	cloudy	21	70	Manchester	cloudy	24	75
B'mouth	cloudy	24	75	Newcastle	cloudy	17	63
Bristol	fair	17	63	Norwich	fair	22	72
Cardiff	fair	25	77	Oxford	cloudy	25	77
Cork	cloudy	18	64	Southsea	fair	24	75
Edinburgh	cloudy	15	59	S'hampton	cloudy	22	72
Glasgow	cloudy	20	68	Southport	sun	-	-
Isle of Man	cloudy	18	64	Swansea	fair	21	70
Leeds	cloudy	21	70	Torquay	fair	21	70

Sun & moon

Sunrise	5.08am	Sunset	8.36pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	10.58am	Moonsset	2.06am	8.36pm to 5.07am

High Tides

	today	tomorrow
	ht (m)	ht (m)
Dover	04.07 5.9 16.33 5.9	05.15 5.6 17.39 5.7
Margate	05.08 4.4 17.17 4.2	06.11 4.2 18.22 4.0
St Mary's	10.05 4.7 22.32 4.8	11.14 4.4 23.45 4.6

Week ahead

monday Sunny. Dry. max 24C min 10C	thursday Largely dry. max 21C min 9C
tuesday Mainly dry. max 22C min 9C	friday Mostly dry. max 20C min 10C
wednesday Odd shower. max 21C min 9C	saturday Isolated shower. max 19C min 10C

Health and safety stops police taking any action

By **PHIL REILLY**

phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

RESIDENTS of a Kent village have been told by police that officers cannot break up illegal raves at night for health and safety reasons.

Three late-night parties have taken place in woods near Shoreham in recent months, but the parish council was told that police were unable to break up one that took place overnight on March 29-30 until the morning.

Chief Inspector Gill Ellis told a parish council meeting: "We will wait until daylight hours for reasons of health and safety before making interventions."

Parish councillor Dick Croydon told Kent on Sunday that residents were concerned the rave would get "out of hand" and said he was "surprised by the attitude of the police".

He said: "They said they couldn't break it up because of safety for their own staff and they didn't want to encourage [the ravers] to get in their cars and drive off."



COVER OF DARKNESS: Police say they have to wait until daylight to break up raves

"I found it very difficult to accept. I thought we had policing there to protect the public."

"The police need to have better intelligence and know when [raves] are going to happen and put them off before they start."

Many raves are organised over the internet or through text messaging.

The dates and times of raves are often advertised in advance, with the partygoers only told at the last minute where they will be held.

Superintendent Peter Wedlake said that all illegal raves are dealt with "robustly".

He said that on this particular occasion there was "pressure on resources" as police were dealing with serious incidents elsewhere.

He said: "On the evening of March 29 and in the early hours of March 30, officers were dealing with two serious incidents involving deaths in the west Kent area."

"Once we had been made aware of it, we monitored the scene of the rave in Shoreham. Despite the pressure on resources, officers negotiated with the rave's organisers. The music was turned down and they left the site by the agreed time."

"Local officers are meeting Cllr Phil Hobson next week to discuss his concerns."

Michael Fallon, Conservative MP for Sevenoaks, said it was a sign the police were "too thinly stretched".

He said: "I've asked successive chief constables to put more people officers out across west Kent."

"We were promised more but too often an incident at one end of the area leaves the other end short-handed."

"It's a big area but they ought to be able to cover it."

Brewery boss: show me evidence

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

beside the pitch, drinks commercials at half time, bottles of champagne for the man of the match. The list is endless."

Shepherd Neame sponsors the Kent County Cricket Club teams, with Spitfire backing the one-day side and Master Brew for the four-day team. It also has its name on hoardings at the club ground, on the players' shirts and in the programme. But the Shepherd Neame logo was removed from the children's replica kits as that was deemed to be "inappropriate" said a spokesman for the brewery.

Mr Neame said: "My response to the call for a ban on advertising is, show me the evidence."

"Traditionally, advertising is a way of a brand gaining market share, and does very little to influence consumption. If this sort of advertising was stopped, a lot of grassroots sports clubs would lose their sponsor."

Rampant

He added: "What is being implied by the calls to ban advertising is that the beer market is rampant, which it is not. The market is in its fastest rate of decline in 40 years."

"So where is the evidence that

alcohol advertising drives consumption? Binge drinking is caused by other factors."

In his article, Dr Stoaite pointed out that alcohol advertising rules say adverts must not link alcohol with 'daring' or 'toughness' or suggest it may enhance 'physical performance' or appeal to the under-18s.

"And yet it seems the regulators and the Government see nothing wrong in allowing our leading football teams and most successful sportsmen - with their millions of young fans - to be closely associated with alcohol products," he claimed.

Dr Stoaite said young people

are drinking more than ever. Since 1990, the alcohol consumption by 11 to 15-year-olds in England has doubled and alcohol misuse is also having a growing impact on young people's health, the MP said.

"Teenagers as young as 13 are being admitted to hospital for alcohol-related treatment. And, for the first time, liver specialists are now seeing patients in their 20s and 30s with end-stage alcoholic liver disease."

The Fabian Review is published by the Fabian Society, a Labour think-tank founded in 1884

'Lorry park not the answer to Operation Stack'

THE Campaign to Protect Rural England has published a report on how congestion caused by Operation Stack could be eased.

The CPRE disagrees with Kent County Council's plan to build a lorry park near the M20 at Aldington, as well as two other parks at as yet undecided locations.

The group wants to see alternative methods

such as the Quick Moveable Barrier scheme put into practice and assessed. It has also called for "improved transport choices" to be made at national and international level.

Dr Hilary Newport, director of CPRE Kent, said: "KCC is an enthusiastic advocate of local foods; we would therefore expect more to be done to discourage food transport."

"In the light of the increasing pressures of climate change and energy security, there is a pressing need to focus our attention on making the best use of all our available resources, and to foster smarter growth which respects our environmental limits, rather than accommodating - and indeed encouraging - the spiralling growth of road freight."

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Internet TV station misses hit targets

EXCLUSIVE

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

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KENT TV has failed to meet its visitor targets in the first eight months since its launch, new figures given to KoS reveal.

The station, funded by Kent County Council, began broadcasting via broadband internet under a controversial £1.4 million two-year pilot scheme in September.

As many as 50,000 people a month would tune into the new channel, the authority claimed ahead of its launch.

But figures from the media company co-founded by Bob Geldof, Ten Alps, which is operating the channel on behalf of KCC, show it is falling short.

The number of visitors to the site peaked in January at 40,000, but dropped to 20,800 in March.

Kent's Labour group on KCC has been critical of the channel, which was launched by the council's Conservative administration.

Cllr Mike Eddy, the group's leader, said: "Viewing figures on average seem to be going down, rather than up."

"The planned investment of £800,000 in the first year and £600,000 in subsequent years looks like it has been wasted."

KCC hoped to recoup £100,000 from the station in the first year through advertising and sponsorship deals and £260,000 in the second year.

The authority revealed that it had made less than £10,000 from the station.

Cllr Alex King, deputy leader of KCC, said: "Kent TV, which has so far received 1.3 million page impressions, will become self-



NO CAMPAIGNING HERE: Editor of Kent TV John McGhie insists the station is 'resolutely independent politically'

financing through savings as well as income.

"Our target is to reach £200,000 by March 2009 and whilst we have so far generated less than £10,000 we will, in the next few months,



be reducing our printed publications and this figure will therefore increase."

Cllr Eddy has previously raised concerns that as well as being a misuse of public money, the station would be a "propaganda machine".

He said this week: "The Labour group has been increasingly concerned that the protestations of political even-handedness are being slowly eroded with certain prospective parliamentary candidates being given preferential billing, while the local election coverage has been cleverly unbalanced."

But John McGhie, editor of Kent TV, said the station was "resolutely independent politically" and followed Ofcom broadcasting rules.

He also denied the station's coverage of the local elections was politically biased.

A spokeswoman for Ten Alps, said: "Kent TV is for everyone who works, lives, visits or studies in the county and we hope it reflects the diversity of interests of real people."

"Politicians at all levels want to re-engage with the public."

"Sadly, this level of playground party politics doesn't do this cause much good."

When asked whether the company was pleased with the station's performance so far, she said: "It is pioneering and experimental."

"We are very pleased at the content and pleased to have got this far in six months."

Winery MD is big business

WELL-known local businessman Frazer Thompson, who is chairman of Kent Institute of Directors, has been crowned Chief Executive of the Year at an awards ceremony hosted by members of a new London stock exchange.

He snapped up the accolade at the Plus Investors Awards 2008 in London's West End. Plus Investors is a quote-driven stock exchange for small businesses, trading more than 1,000 British companies with a combined market capital of £195 billion.

Mr Thompson is managing director of Chapel Down Winery at Small Hythe near Tenterden, a fast-growing small business and the largest producer of English wines in the country.

Mr Thompson said: "It was a great surprise and honour to win."

Legal action taken against architects

KENT County Council is taking legal action against the architects of the abandoned Turner Contemporary arts centre.

The original plans for the centre, which was to be situated in the sea by Margate Pier, were scrapped due to escalating estimated costs, which rose from £7m to £50m.

KCC is now planning to sue architects Snohetta and Spence in a bid to reclaim taxpayer money that had been invested in the scheme. A new design for the venue, which will now be built on land, has been approved at an estimated cost of £17.5m.

On Friday, British architects Spence Associates, which joined with Norwegian firm Snohetta to produce the original designs, said they did not wish to comment.

Visit Kent on the web

THIS week sees the launch of Visit Kent magazine. The official guide for tourism across the county, it is filled with offers and ideas for places to visit.

It is believed to be the first magazine of its kind to have an online e-edition and to feature embedded video in its pages.

It can be viewed on KOS Media's website at www.kentnews.co.uk.

Crash plane had 'blown out' fuel



KILLED: Flight Sergeant Gary Wayne Andrews died in the Nimrod plane crash

AN INQUEST into the deaths of 14 servicemen in a plane crash in Afghanistan has heard that a number of fuel pipes were found to be corroded on another plane in the fleet.

One of the servicemen who died when the RAF Nimrod crashed in September 2006 was Flight Sergeant Gary Wayne Andrews, 48, from Tankerton, near Whitstable.

Speaking at the inquest in Oxford this week, Nimrod engineer Sergeant Andrew Whitmore said he first noticed the corrosion on couplings used to join fuel pipes on another of the aircraft.

It was not until after the crash that the couplings on the Nimrod fleet was inspected. Sgt Whitmore said the damage was "quite shocking, quite bad". He said protective sealant had also peeled back from the couplings and metal was flaking away.

Sgt Mark Wallington, a ground engineer who supervised maintenance work to the fleet in Afghanistan, told the inquest he had not been told of previous fuel leaks from the Nimrods. The plane that crashed had "blown out" fuel twice before, the court heard.

Sgt Wallington said: "I think I should have been made aware."

Also this week, family members of the crewmen killed in the crash were allowed to listen to a tape of their final moments.

The courtroom was cleared so that the cockpit recording could be heard in private.

The inquest is ongoing and is expected to last for several weeks.

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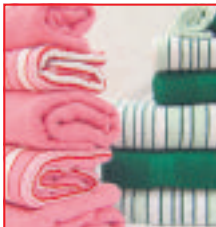
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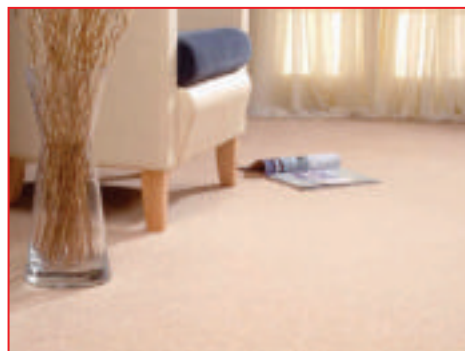
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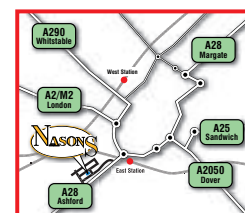
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Faulty X-ray machine may help aliens invade

EXCLUSIVE

Report and picture by

MIKE GUNNILL

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A HI-TECH X-ray scanner used to search lorries for illegal immigrants at Dover is being plagued with breakdowns and has been switched off for up to a week at a time.

The £2 million scanner is also "rested" at night to reduce the number of breakdowns, UK Border Agency sources claim.

The Government unveiled five new scanners costing £9 million in 2001 as part of a range of hi-tech tools used to find people trying to get into Britain illegally. The devices were placed in Dover and at the Eurotunnel terminal at Coquelles.

The Immigration Service Union confirmed the Dover machine was unreliable, causing frustration for officers who also use carbon dioxide detectors and thermal-imaging devices to find stowaways.

Officers are also angry at proposals to scrap their 30 euros a day allowance for working in France, a move that affects about 1,200 employees.

They receive the allowance while on attachment in Calais where they are required to stay overnight in hotels.

'Rock bottom'

One source described morale as being "at rock bottom". The union said the allowances cutback was being considered after the creation of the UK Border Agency.

The 25,000-strong agency brings together the work of the Border and Immigration Agency, UK Visas and Customs, with the aim of protecting against illegal immigration, organised crime and terrorism.

Dover staff said the scanner had suffered repeated problems and was out of action for a week in April and for several days in March.

The mobile X-ray machine is passed along the length of a lorry and creates a detailed image of its contents, removing the need for a search with sniffer dogs.

The scanner at Dover has become the last line of defence after French authorities blocked their use in January, claiming they could breach EU health and safety laws.

British border guards in Calais were banned from using X-ray machines to search for stowaways in lorries – unless they asked for the illegal immigrants' written permission first.

Although the French refuse to allow lor-



NO HIDING PLACE: More repairs to the mobile X-ray vehicle at Dover's Eastern Docks

ries to be X-rayed for stowaways, they do allow British customs staff to scan for drugs or explosives.

But France is insisting that a megaphone warning is played before lorries are scanned with X-rays, to alert any stowaways who may be hiding inside, said John Tincey, chairman of the 4,000-strong Immigration Service Union.

The scanners – which have helped cut the number of illegal immigrants arriving in Dover by 88 per cent – emit less radiation than a hospital X-ray and are used elsewhere in Europe.

Mr Tincey said: "The machine at Dover does break down and staff say it is unreliable. At Coquelles there's a Customs X-ray machine, but the French insist they play a recorded announcement, saying 'Please get out as we are about to scan it'."

"There's also a scanner used by the French to look for explosives at Coquelles, but again they are not allowed to use it to look for people. It would show up anyone hiding inside, but it's not in use all the time."

"There seems to be an instruction that you can't use X-ray machines to look for people, but you can use them if you are looking for something else and first issue a warning to anyone who may be hiding."

"I am told that Customs have never had anyone climbing out after playing the announcement, but have subsequently found people inside the lorry."

"Having a scanner at Dover does little for immigration control because those people are already in the UK and will claim asylum, which is why we have nearly all of our staff and equipment in Calais."

"The only reason for having the scanner in Dover is for collecting fines from lorry drivers. But the fines system isn't really effective because the courts haven't taken

shut down five years ago, plans are being drawn up to open a similar facility."

The immigrants' favoured way of crossing the Channel is to break in to waiting lorries. To combat this, the French allowed the British to set up immigration controls in Calais.

Along with thermal imaging devices and carbon dioxide detectors, British officers have been using gamma-ray scanners.

They have proved so effective that the number of illegal immigrants caught in Dover fell by 88 per cent to 1,500 in 2006.

Any reduction in checks at Calais and at Dover could see the numbers soar again.

A Border Agency spokesman said: "We do not comment on specific operational matters. Our approach is based on a combination of skilled officers plus technology."

But Geoff Dossetter, of the Freight Transport Association, said switching off the machine would lead to even more haulage firms being fined for unwittingly carrying stowaways.

He said: "We need all the help we can get from the authorities to fight the problem of illegal immigrants in France. But we keep getting this attitude that the transport industry and drivers are to blame. Drivers are the innocent victims of stowaways or the criminal gangs that help them."

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Poll finds Labour support for Brown ebbing away

A POLL for The Times newspaper says more than half of Labour supporters want Gordon Brown to go – and go now.

The Populus survey shows a dramatic collapse of confidence in the Prime Minister since last Thursday's disastrous local elections, according to the Rupert Murdoch-owned paper, which has usually been supportive of Labour.

It found that 55 per cent of Labour voters think Mr Brown should stand down as they believe the party would stand a greater chance of winning the next general election with a "younger, fresher, more charismatic alternative".

Labour MPs in marginal constituencies are said to be growing increasingly uneasy with the prospect of losing their seats.

Derek Wyatt, the Labour MP for Sittingbourne and Sheppey, said the recent local elections represented the "John Major moment" for Mr Brown.

Mr Wyatt added: "Gordon has committed spectacular own goals and the public is punishing him for it."

Foreign Secretary David Miliband reportedly organised a summit last weekend at Chevening, his Kent official residence, to discuss the fallout from the elections and the future of the party.

Dad's a great model for me

THE son of disgraced Kent Tory MP Derek Conway has spoken out about his lifestyle and the media circus in which his family found themselves.

Henry Conway, 25, even posed in a slinky skirt for society magazine Tatler.

He spoke of the nightmare when his father hit the headlines after it was revealed the MP for Old Bexley and Sidcup had paid his sons Henry and Freddie thousands of pounds to work as researchers when they were hardly ever at his office. Party leader David Cameron quickly suspended the Tory member.

The magazine said the gay, flamboyant, fabulously dressed son bore most of the brunt.

He laughingly told them: "When I walked out of the house that Tuesday I was chased down the street by seven paparazzi and three film crews.

"My father's been in politics for as long as I've been alive so we're used to press attention, but not that kind of 24-hour attention. It was a huge shock."

Henry admits he was more worried about what he looked

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

like in the pictures. He said: "I always think about what I'm going to wear, so I just put on my Prada sunglasses and strode forth."

Mr Conway junior is known for the parties he hosts in London's top night spots.

After the scandal broke, he refused to cancel one at Mahiki, in Dover Street. He said: "I felt I should do it because it's what I do, and I didn't want to shy away."

"I had to run my night. It's my world and the show must go on. They put paparazzi on bikes after me. I had a cab waiting out back and I stayed at a friend's house in north London that night. It was so scary, but the adrenalin does pump you."

He remains loyal to his father, saying: "I have the most enormous respect and admiration for my father."

"It may sound like a cliché, but he really has been, and continues to be, a great model for me. He is a wonderful man and I am very proud to call him my father."

"We are very close, and all



Picture: RAM SHERGILL/TATLER © Condé Nast Publications

this has brought us closer together. I think we are even closer now.

"I do eventually want the kind of relationship my parents have. I want to be happily married one day, with a little pinny on, baking cakes. It'll all be so charming."

Derek Conway, who grew up on a Newcastle council estate,

sent his sons, Henry and Freddie, to Harrow and his daughter Claudia to St Mary's School, Ascot. His wife Colette stands by him.

Conway now sits as an independent Conservative after being accused of paying Henry £32,717 as a research assistant between 2001 and 2004 while he was studying the history of

dress at the Courtauld Institute.

Younger brother Freddie, while an undergraduate at Newcastle, picked up £50,000 while in his father's employment.

• The full version of this article can be seen in the June issue of TATLER, on sale from Thursday May 8.

CURVY: MP's son Henry Conway poses in a slinky skirt and basque as part of a photo-shoot for June edition of Tatler magazine, inset, which carries the full interview

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Drug appeal success is Nice

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THOUSANDS of people in Kent suffering from the early stages of Alzheimer's disease have had their hopes of treatment raised after a Court of Appeal ruling against the NHS drugs watchdog.

The pharmaceutical industry has been locked in a three-year battle with the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (Nice) over its 2005 ruling to limit the use of drugs, such as Aricept, to patients with advanced, 'moderate' stages of the disease.

Patient groups, clinicians and drug companies were furious over the contentious decision.

Around 24,000 people in Kent, including Bromley, Bexley and Medway, have Alzheimer's and one in three elderly people will die with dementia.

Appeal judges ruled that Nice had failed to act with transparency over the way it made its decision to refuse treatment for people with early stages of the disease, saying last week that it was "procedurally unfair".

Dr Satvir Singh, a consultant psychiatrist working in east Kent, welcomed the news that the drug manufacturers could now be able to challenge Nice's findings on the cost

effectiveness of the £2.50-a-day treatment.

However, he remained angry that the watchdog could, for now, continue to only recommend the treatment for people with moderate dementia.

"Most clinicians would agree that you have to prescribe as early or as soon as possible," he said.

"I wish somebody would look, not only at the patient, but at the carers and the amazing results for them.

"They see these drugs as a lifeline. Waiting for patients to enter moderate dementia you have more or less destroyed the heart and soul of the carers already by then."

In 2001 Nice recommended the drugs should be prescribed as standard treatment for all stages of Alzheimer's. It only backtracked on the original findings four years later.

Dr Singh said: "My practice has not changed. Ethically, I do not agree and I have continued to prescribe these cognitive enhancing drugs for early dementia where clinically relevant, irrespective of Nice's ruling."

Challenge

The Alzheimer's Society has been challenging Nice's ruling, along with the main claimant, Aricept's Japanese manufacturers Eisai.

Eisai promotes the drug in the UK with Pfizer, which has its European headquarters in Sandwich.

Neil Hunt, chief executive of the Alzheimer's Society, said: "The decision is a damning indictment of the flawed process used by Nice to deny people with Alzheimer's disease access to drug treatments.

"Time and quality of life has been



CAMPAIGN: A previous event in Tonbridge protesting against Nice's decision to restrict drug use

snatched from thousands of vulnerable people who learned they have this devastating disease this year."

Nick Burgin, managing director of Eisai, said after the company had reviewed the cost-effectiveness calculations, it would submit any findings to Nice. He added: "We hope this will restore access to anti-dementia medicines for patients at the mild stages of Alzheimer's disease."

Nice said the ruling meant it may take longer to make decisions over guidance on new drugs in the future.

Andrew Dillon, the watchdog's chief executive, said it would take any comments made by Eisai into account. But he stressed that Nice had not been ordered to change current guidance on Alzheimer's drugs.

He added: "The drugs continue to be recommended only for people with moderate Alzheimer's disease."

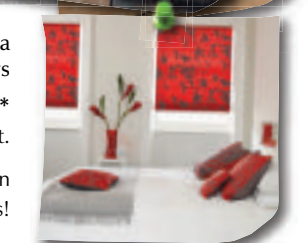
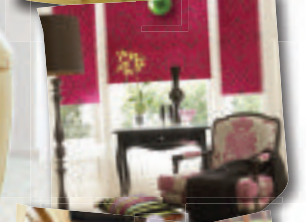


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Window displays are works of art

THE work of local artists will be displayed in shop windows throughout a Kent town in an unusual take on an art exhibition.

Art In Store in Cranbrook will see up to 80 businesses giving up space in their windows for the display between this Monday and Saturday, May 24.

It is the third time the free art show has been organised by a partnership of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Cranbrook Tourism Development Forum and Cranbrook Parish Council.

Cllr Elizabeth Thomas, the borough council's portfolio holder for planning and development, said: "Art in Store provides an ideal opportunity for rural businesses to come together to strengthen the community spirit and to encourage many more visitors to the town."

"Through this event local artists can promote their work, whilst shoppers can experience a free art show outside the shops before exploring the delights that are inside."

Catalogues of the show can be found at Weald Information Centre in Cranbrook, Sissinghurst Castle Garden shop and Tunbridge Wells Tourist Information Centre.

Diamond deal to help Africa's poor

By **TONY PATEY**

tony.patey@kpsmedia.co.uk

KENT tycoon Simon Hume-Kendall is involved in a major gold and diamond deal being thrashed out in West Africa.

He is deep in talks with the vice president of Sierra Leone Samuel Sam-Sumana and other regional politicians to work out a business strategy – in a country that was wracked by a rebel war fuelled by diamonds in the 1990s.

For a man whose widely-based commercial portfolio includes top local Kent attractions such as Bewl Water, The Hop Farm, Lamberhurst Vineyard, and, elsewhere, the Sport Media Group, it's an exotic story involving the SAS and top football players such as Ian Wright.

Mr Hume-Kendall said his links with West Africa go back to an early age when he visited many times with his step-grandfather Sir Valiay Bairamian – then Lord Chief Justice for Ghana and Nigeria.

He said: "But it wasn't until 2006 that I started to develop business connections there via Ian Wright's company Wright, Wright, Wright Ltd. Through my role as chief executive of Crystal Palace Football Club, I worked with Ian to bring footballers from Sierra Leone to the UK."



NEGOTIATING: Simon Hume-Kendall has met with the president of Sierra Leone

Mr Hume-Kendall said UK special forces were acting as protectors of the people of Sierra Leone resulting in a "blood bond forming between the two."

Mr Hume-Kendall added: "Through contact with Colonel Tim Collins [former colonel in the British Army] who was out in Sierra Leone at the time we came to hear about an alluvial diamond and gold mine which wasn't being run effectively."

"I decided, along with special forces soldiers and my football friends, to help the Sierra

Leonean people profit from the mine using my extractive industries knowledge.

"We're now working with the vice president of Sierra Leone and other politicians from West Africa to provide a coherent export source for the country's gold and diamond resources, with a view to properly rewarding its people for these."

He said that through a royal family connection and the Prince's Trust, the Hume-Kendall Foundation will be offering Sierra Leonean people scholarships in gem cutting to help their career opportunities.

"We're also developing a system which will help women from Middle Eastern countries learn how to cut, polish and design precious stones. This will create an entirely new workforce for these countries, in which women are usually thought of as the lower class. With these efforts we hope to re-enfranchise Middle Eastern women and change the course of geology."

Sierra Leone is officially the poorest country in the world; it is ranked lowest on the human development index and seventh lowest on the human poverty index.

Last year, Kent on Sunday readers donated a tonne of books to the people of Kent, a village in Sierra Leone. KoS also organised a fundraising concert at Canterbury Cathedral for the Sierra Leone Blind School Choir.

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Garden of inspiration is under threat



IMAGINATION: The garden of Restoration House inspired Charles Dickens for scenes in *Great Expectations* and (below) Andy Brown in the garden next to the development site

By **PHIL REILLY**

phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

ENGLISH Heritage claims a building that inspired Charles Dickens is under threat after a housing development sprang up next door.

The agency is urging Medway Council to backtrack on its decision to allow four houses to be built on land next door to Restoration House, in Rochester's Crow Lane.

The grand property, which is a Grade I-listed building, was the basis for Satis House in Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations*, where it was the home of the lovelorn Miss Havesham.

It was also the home of Rod Hull, of *Emu* fame, before he went bankrupt in the 1990s.

Dr Andy Brown, English Heritage's regional director for the South East, said the owners of the building had not been consulted before Medway Council gave planning permission.

He told KOS Media: "We know Dickens spent a lot of time looking for settings for stories in all parts of north Kent. He borrowed the name Satis House from another house close to the castle, but this is the place he based it on."

"The garden wall is the wall Pip is looking over when he sees Estella."

"This is a town that bases much of its tourist industry on Charles Dickens and yet they would give planning permission for this next door to a site like this."

"The whole process was deeply flawed. We didn't know anything about it until this January when they started building."

Dr Brown said that the land on which the new development is being constructed was once part of the house's garden. In recent years it has been used as a car park.

During the construction, builders came across a Tudor-era wall, part of which has since been knocked down.

Dr Brown said English Heritage was urging the council to order the reinstatement of the wall and the houses, which are partly completed, to be demolished.

He added: "We would welcome constructive talks with all parties to ensure these issues are resolved to preserve some of the most important buildings in Rochester, which have a romantic association with fans of Dickens throughout the world."

A Medway Council spokesman said: "We have discussed the planning issues with the owners of the adjacent Restoration House, with the developers and with English Heritage."

"We are currently considering the statement from English Heritage and taking our own legal advice before deciding how we can proceed."

Mave Helden, a director of developers

Future Homes, insisted the company had done nothing wrong and said it had no intention of knocking down any more of the Tudor wall.

She said: "Nobody knew the wall was there when work started. When they discovered it they stopped work on it."

"Listed or not we would have kept it."

She also insisted the company had consulted its lawyers and been reassured that the planning consent will not be reversed.



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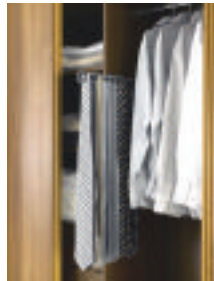
Registration will be held on the first evening of attendance, 22, 23 or 24 April, from 4.30pm. Short Course Centre, Blake Building, Chatham Maritime.



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OF THE SOUTH: Above is Mark Wallinger's horse, continuing clockwise are the other shortlisted designs by Richard Deacon, Daniel Buren, Rachel Whiteread and Christopher Le Brun

Thoroughbred angels

By **PHIL REILLY**

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A GIANT horse, a concrete house and a tower of cubes with a laser beam are on the shortlisted for the Angel of the South-style monument to be built at Ebbsfleet.

The designs are the work of five artists chosen by Eurostar to submit plans for the £2 million artwork.

Organisers hope the final iconic sculpture, which could be as tall as 150ft, will be a southern equivalent of Antony Gormley's Angel of the North. It will perch on a hilltop over the Ebbsfleet Valley.

One of the designs, by recent Turner Prize winner Mark Wallinger, is a giant lifelike thoroughbred race-horse 33 times bigger than the animals themselves.

It would be built using techniques designed for the building of ship hulls and will stand on Springhead looking out over Ebbsfleet Valley and the Thames Estuary.

Mr Wallinger studied the history of the relationship between horses and man, including the story of Horsa, the semi-mythological leader of the Anglo-Saxons who landed on the Isle



of Thanet in the sixth century.

It is thought this is how the white horse became the symbol of Kent.

Mr Wallinger said: "The horse is the work of centuries of continuous collaboration between man and nature. It is beautiful. And if the scale makes it uncanny, perhaps this is because it is also something quite plain and simple – a horse in a field."

KOS Media had asked readers to send in their own designs, with a version of the white horse submitted by Kemsing resident Monty Parkin.

French conceptual artist Daniel Buren is proposing what he calls a 'signal', which is a tower made of five stacked cubes containing a vertical laser beam that will reach indefinitely into the sky.

Former Turner Prize winner Rachel Whiteread's design is a "craggy, recycled mountain" on top of which would sit a life-size concrete cast of a house.

Sculptor Richard Deacon's geometrical design would be a painted steel latticework outlining a "stack" of 26

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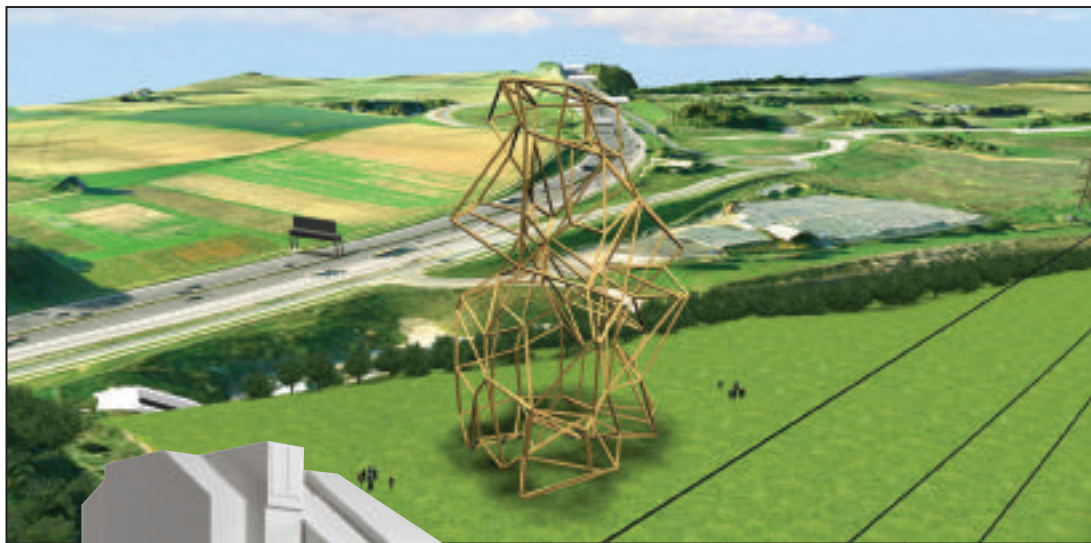
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differently shaped polyhedrons, which he describes as a "nest".

It is based on a cairn, which is a pile of stones that were historically used to mark routes and burial sites.

The 26 "modules" reflect that there are 26 letters of the alphabet because Mr Deacon sees writing as the cornerstone of western culture.

The final design is by British sculptor Christopher Le Brun and is a giant concrete wing set against a disc.

It is intended the sculpture will be erected in time for the 2012 Olympics.



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Rings director backs statue tribute to Battle of Britain hero Sir Keith

OSCAR-WINNING director Peter Jackson is backing a campaign to honour the wartime commander seen as the mastermind of the Allies' victory in the Battle of Britain.

Campaigners want to erect a statue of Sir Keith Park, who was responsible for the fighter defence of London and the South East during the pivotal 1940 conflict, on the fourth plinth in Trafalgar Square.

Terry Smith, a City financier, launched the campaign in March, which has since been gaining momentum in the UK, winning support from the newly-elected Mayor of

London, Boris Johnson, as well as veterans. The only tributes to the New Zealander, who died in 1975 aged 82, are a road named after him near Biggin Hill Airport and one at Uxbridge, where he was based during the Battle of Britain.

Mr Smith visited New Zealand this week to win more support and met 30 members of Sir Keith's family.

While there, he won backing from The Lord of the Rings trilogy director Mr Jackson and New Zealand Defence Minister Phil Goff, who has written to UK Defence Secretary Des Browne in support of a permanent

memorial to Sir Keith.

"New Zealand is a great country which produced a great wartime commander, Sir Keith Park, whose efforts were crucial to winning the Battle of Britain and defeating Nazi tyranny," said Mr Smith.

"I will return home invigorated and more determined than ever to see this son of New Zealand, and defender of the free world, commemorated on the fourth plinth, at the heart of the city and country he helped save."

Mr Smith has pledged to pay the £100,000 cost of the 18ft bronze statue himself.



SCREEN TEST: Kent glamour girl Keeley Hazell has a role in new movie *Cashback*

Pretty as a moving picture

KENT glamour model Keeley Hazell is gracing the nation's big screens for the first time.

The former Bromley schoolgirl, recently voted the third sexiest woman in the world by FHM readers, has a small part in independent British film *Cashback*.

The film was shot in 2006 by director Sean Ellis and has spent the last two years on the international festival circuit. It finally received its full British cinema release on Friday.

True to form, Keeley plays the minor role of Naked Girl, a part that involved wandering around a supermarket with her clothes off.

She told KOS Media: "I'm really pleased to be in this film, even if I do have a small role. I'm hoping it's the shape of things to come and I get offered more movie roles."

"It's a really good film and I had loads of fun making it. I'm glad it is finally getting the cinema release it deserves."

Cashback is an expanded version of a short film of the same name that earned Mr Ellis an Oscar nomination for Live Action Short Film in 2006.

It tells the story of an aspiring artist called Ben who suffers from insomnia after breaking up with his girlfriend Suzy.

He takes up a job working the night shift in a supermarket, where he meets and falls in love with a colleague.

While at the supermarket his imagination runs wild. Among his fantasies is the ability to stop time, which he uses to undress female shoppers, including Keeley, and draw them.

Former *EastEnders* and *Bionic Woman* star Michelle Ryan takes the role of Suzy.

In a newspaper interview she said that she enjoyed doing the dramatic break-up scenes with Ben, played by Sean Biggstaff.

She said: "It was fun getting stuck in and doing a lot of shouting. I've never had to go through the trauma Suzy and Ben go through in the film."

"However, I can appreciate how stressful it can be. I was worn out afterwards."

Cashback has received mixed reviews from critics.

Film website Rotten Tomatoes gave it a 44 per cent rotten rating and described it as "full of unlikeable characters, messy editing and gratuitous nudity".

However, *Variety's* Justin Chang called it "sickly charming, genteelly erotic and directed with supreme polish".

By **PHIL REILLY**

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Soldier takes on Saxons

A SOLDIER preparing to go to Kosovo has been learning to drive an armoured personnel carrier.

Lance Corporal Doug Brady, who serves with the 2nd Battalion The Rifles, has been training on Saxons at the Defence School of Transport in Leconfield,

East Yorkshire. The 21-year-old from West Kingsdown has been in the Army for three years and is currently based in Northern Ireland.

He served in Iraq between October 2006 and May 2007, where he was based in Basra City.

Homes improve but more care needed

By JENNA PUDELEK

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FOUR homes for vulnerable older people in Kent have been slammed as failing to provide a 'safe service' by the social care watchdog.

However, the county performed better than last year when more than a third of care homes received 'adequate' and 'poor' ratings from the Commission for Social Care Inspection (CSCI).

This year, 11 per cent of care homes received these bottom two ratings, while 66 per cent achieved the top two ratings of 'good' and 'excellent'. There are 701 care homes in Kent, of which Kent County Council (KCC) runs 16 and the rest are in the private sector.

Nadra Ahmed, the Rochester-based chairman of the National Care Association, said even one home rated 'poor' was not good enough. I think it is very heartening to know providers are recognised for the improvements they've made.

"However, we have to accept that until we have a service that keeps everyone safe, in my eyes, it is not celebratory."

Mrs Ahmed has been critical of



CONCERN: Kevin Parker fears low fees are hindering improvement

CSCI in the past and this week she questioned why it is taking so long for standards in care homes to improve.

"Providers are saying 'this is not good enough' that average care homes are allowed to continue when others are investing time and money to improve things against all the odds," she added.

Kevin Parker, chairman of the Kent Care Home Association, suggested one reason why some care homes continued failing to meet CSCI standards.

"We do have a slight concern that

some of the more poorly performing homes are hindered by local authority low fee rates, which we have to take into account with the view that we could be starting to create a two-tiered system," he said.

Mr Parker said some homes were restricted from investing in staff training and improving facilities because their incomes were limited by taking a high proportion of local authority clients.

He said this could be a contributory factor in homes constantly receiving 'adequate' ratings.

This is the first time CSCI has made the quality star ratings available to the public via its website.

Mr Parker and Mrs Ahmed urged people to be cautious and not rely on star ratings alone when choosing a home for their loved one.

A spokesman for KCC said the authority welcomed the idea and said it was important to help care home clients and their families make an informed choice.

In response to Mr Parker's claims, Oliver Mills, KCC's director of adult services, said: "Most people who are in homes are not placed by KCC and are either self-funding or are placed by other local authorities. Where we do agree contracts with providers, we agree prices in line with the limited resources available and our commitment to getting the best possible outcomes for people."

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KLF star's 'insulting' art

By **TOM BETTS**

tom.betts@kosmedia.co.uk

A CONTROVERSIAL piece of art-work by an anarchic pop star depicting Margate beach as a rubbish dump has caused outrage in the seaside town.

The piece, which was contributed free by Jimmy Cauty, a member of group The KLF, is part of the Thanet council-funded Margate Rocks visual arts festival.

It shows the beach strewn with junk, with children picking over the debris, while an abandoned car sits in the sea.

Part of the image, on hoardings outside the old Matassa's ice cream parlour, was a sign that said "Margate, twinned with Peckham" but was torn away not long after it was put up on May 1.

Thule Howard, who runs the Joke Shop in nearby Arlington Arcade, said: "It's insulting. If this is part of Margate Rocks then it's so sad. We had flyers for the festival in the shop but we've thrown them away now."

"It's so derogatory towards Margate and



PAIN IN THE ARTS: Jimmy Cauty's mural depicting Margate beach as a rubbish dump

what does it have to do with art and ecology? I thought Margate Rocks was supposed to show Thanet in a good light."

Labour county councillor Clive Hart was furious. He said: "We have three prominent and beautiful things on Margate seafraint: a

clean, wide open beach with the softest and most beautiful sand in Europe; our historic clock tower; and the beautifully renovated Imperial Hotel building.

The huge mural, depicting our golden mile as a rubbish dump, is a shameful insult to all

three of these iconic landmarks and to the decent residents of Margate."

Jessica Baum, Margate Rocks organiser, confirmed that Mr Cauty made the mural for the festival. She said: "We've had a lot of complaints because I think a lot of people are missing the point about the humour of it."

"I realise that some people will read it that way, but it's meant to be a bit tongue-in-cheek and funny; that's the way that he works."

"I realise people in the town are feeling quite raw, but we've got to be light-hearted about things."

Ms Baum said she had received a threatening phone call on the morning the work had gone up.

Jimmy Cauty was a founding member of the infamous chart act The KLF, also known as The Justified Ancients of Mu Mu and the K Foundation.

KLF stunts have included burning a million pounds of their earnings on a remote Scottish island and dumping a dead sheep at a 1992 Brit Awards party.

The KLF's hits included, What Time is Love, Last Train to Transcentral, 3AM Eternal and Justified and Ancient.

News and sport updated daily
www.kentnews.co.uk

German trucker gets 14 years after £7.5m drugs haul at port

A LORRY driver was caught trying to smuggle amphetamines worth £7.5 million into the UK through the Port of Dover.

German Henryk Centner, 50, was found guilty of smuggling and sentenced to 14 years in jail at Canterbury Crown Court.

As well as the huge quantity of amphetamine sulphate, which amounted to 60kg, he was also attempting to smuggle in 200kg of cannabis, worth an estimated £500,000.

The drugs were discovered by customs officers at Dover's Eastern Docks on November 4, last year. During a routine search of

Centner's lorry officers found the drugs stashed in holdalls and boxes among a load of trees and shrubs.

Spokeswoman Bev Morgan said: "HM Revenue and Customs, along with the newly-formed UK Border Agency, is at the forefront of the fight to stop drugs entering the UK."

"We aim to protect society from this activity wherever we detect it, at the borders or inland."

"Anyone with information relating to smuggled goods should contact our 24-hour hotline number - 0800 595000."

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Time to react



If you're a driver, you've probably found yourself in a situation at least once, where you've had to react 'suddenly' – in which case, maybe you're not allowing yourself enough time to react.

'Sudden' changes around you and snap driving decisions are often more as a result of not anticipating the actions of others, rather than changes really coming out of the blue.

You may have experienced a traffic light that has 'suddenly' turned red causing you to brake sharply, or traffic 'suddenly' stopping in front of you, so you have to brake hard to avoid running into the back of another vehicle. At some point, you may even experience a pedestrian stepping out in front of you, which could obviously have tragic consequences if you don't have time to react.

All of these 'sudden' incidents can be anticipated and anticipation counts more

towards avoiding crashes than the speed of your reaction does. If you're approaching a green traffic light, you can be sure that it will turn red shortly and you don't need to put yourself in the situation where you're wondering if you can make it through. Make sure you always leave enough space between you and the vehicle in front and watch what it, and the vehicle in front of that, is doing so you aren't taken by surprise when they 'suddenly' stop.

And don't be surprised if a pedestrian steps out in front of you in urban and residential areas – that's where you would expect to find them! The question is, could you stop in time if it 'suddenly' happened to you?

There's more information about road safety on the our website at www.kent.gov.uk/highways

See www.kentTV.com for up-to-date travel information

How well do you know the limits?



We all like to think that we're good drivers but, now's your chance to put yourself to the test. The Kent and Medway Safety Camera Partnership is re-launching its hugely successful game road show 'Know the Limits', so come along and find out just how well you do, or don't, know the highway code! The show is a fun and interactive way to educate road users and it will be touring the county at various shopping centres. If you know your stuff about speed limits, stopping distances and safety cameras, you'll have the chance to win an iPod shuffle and be entered into the free draw to win a digital camcorder.

'Know the Limits', supported by Kent Fire & Rescue Service, will be at the following shopping centres between 10am and 3pm:

- Bluewater – Friday 16 May
- Victoria Place, Tunbridge Wells – Tuesday 20 May
- County Square, Ashford – Friday 30 May
- Hempstead Valley, Gillingham – Friday 13 June
- Orchards, Dartford – Friday 20 June
- The Mall Chequers, Maidstone – Friday 27 June
- The Pentagon, Chatham – Friday 4 July

If you can't make it to one of the shopping centres, you can also take part online at www.knowthelimits.org



Dealing with Flooding

At Kent Highway Services, we know that flooding on the carriageway can be a major problem and with the increase in rainfall that we've seen in recent years, it's vital that we tackle this problem in a structured, long-term way.

As part of that, we're now using a database of known flooding problems in Kent as a structured way to prioritise the investigation, maintenance and, where necessary, drainage improvements across the county.

Wherever possible, we also need to make sure that any improvements to the drainage system prevent the same problem from re-occurring and a recent example of this can be seen at The Landway in Bearsted.

In this case, we worked very closely with our partners Jacobs and Ringway, who make up Kent Highway Services. We called upon geotechnical engineers from Jacobs to investigate the problem, engineers from Jacobs

Professional Services to specify the remedial works and the road maintenance teams from Ringway to construct the works.

There were many reasons for the problem, which resulted in us identifying a number of possible improvements. However, the main problem had been caused by tree roots damaging the older style pipe joints, which had blocked an important overflow pipe. We unblocked the pipe and then re-aligned it to prevent the same problem happening again.

Local residents, children walking to school, people waiting at the bus stop and drivers are all enjoying the improvements and the problem puddle has been removed. We'll still be keeping an eye on it though to make sure that no further improvements are needed.

To find out more about how we look after Kent's roads visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways or call 08458 247 800.

Travel Update

Below are roadworks and events that may cause some disruptions. Please remember that these are planned works and other emergency works may be required.



	Start	Finish	Road	Reason
Thanet	current	18.7.08	A255 High Street, Ramsgate	Temporary traffic lights - new gas mains
Maidstone	Start 12.5.08	Finish 12.5.08	Road A229 High Street, Staplehurst	Reason Temporary traffic lights - telecoms works
Sevenoaks	Start 12.5.08	Finish 13.5.08	Road Pilgrims Way West, Dunton Green	Reason Road closure - carriageway works
Swale	Start 12.5.08	Finish 14.5.08	Road Castle Road, Sittingbourne	Reason Temporary traffic lights - new water mains
Gravesend	Start 12.5.08	Finish 9.6.08	Road Hall Road, Gravesend	Reason Road closure - carriageway works
Canterbury	Start 12.5.08	Finish 16.6.08	Road Ashford Road, Newington	Reason Temporary traffic lights - new water mains

For details of other roadworks in Kent please visit www.kent.gov.uk/travel

For more information, please call 08458 247 800 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Huge public response to survey on the future of air travel from Manston

A SURVEY on the future of Manston airport has had a massive response from members of the public.

The questionnaire, which is being run in conjunction with KOS Media's www.kentnews.co.uk, has been organised by Kent International Airport to assess the demand for the airport and its possible expansion.

The site, which is currently able to handle 800,000 passengers a year, is already home to one of the UK's longest runways, capable of handling all commercial aircraft types.

Less than a week after its launch the survey has already received a massive 1,800 responses.

However, while the majority of responses were positive, some KOS Media readers were unhappy with the prospect of the airport expanding its services.

Nicholas Hillier, from Ramsgate, wrote to KOS Media to complain that any expansion would "only increase noise and air pollution in Thanet".

He wrote: "Not only will this blight the lives of the people of Thanet, but will also dissuade the many visitors from returning."

"The constant drone of planes taking off and landing is not conducive to a relaxing holiday, no matter how

By **PHIL REILLY**

phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

beautiful the beaches are."

Ken Hanney, also from Ramsgate, complained that the survey did not give people the chance to indicate if they supported expansion or not.

He wrote: "Aircraft using the airport fly directly over the Ramsgate town centre often at quite low level."

"The current volume of air-traffic is just about acceptable, but any proposals for a significant increase, such as relieving the scheduled air traffic loads from Heathrow and Gatwick, could only lead to a campaign of protests from the residents of Ramsgate, because, if allowed, it would destroy Ramsgate and considerably reduce the value of properties under the flight path."

Snapshot

Matt Clarke, chief executive of Kent International Airport, said he wished to thank the many people who had completed the survey and said it showed there was strong interest in air travel.

He said: "The survey will provide us with useful evidence of what Kent residents feel is important when considering their choice of airport and a snapshot of which routes they cur-

rently fly or may want to use in the future."

"This will help us to best serve the county when talking to prospective airlines."

"To those people who have criticised the survey, please note that it must be taken in context as a marketing questionnaire."

"The survey was intended to find out more about the travel habits of Kent residents, for example where they fly to and where they would like to fly to."

Mr Clarke added: "The time for a full public debate on the development of the airport will be when we have completed our master planning exercise, which will outline the long-term future of Kent International."

"Then the people of Thanet and relevant public bodies will have a real opportunity to comment on the airport's future."

The survey is to be evaluated by an independent third-party market research company.

All those that complete the questionnaire are in with a chance of winning a free holiday in Majorca.

Kent Escapes is offering flights, transfers and half-board accommodation for two adults.

Find more news and sport daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

MP makes trains protest

A TORY frontbencher has met with a railway chief to protest at plans to axe trains from two west Kent towns to Gatwick Airport.

Greg Clark, MP for Tunbridge Wells, spoke out against Southern Railways' proposals during a meeting with the company's chief executive Chris Burchell.

"When we want to encourage the use of public transport to

reduce traffic congestion, I am dismayed at this decision," he said.

He said he would continue to work with local authorities to press the case for keeping the service to the airport from Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.

"If these plans go ahead, Kent will be the only county in South East England without a direct rail link to Gatwick Airport," he added.



For information and advice on travelling in Kent, go to page 16.

For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to page 46.

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KELLY Brook is working on a new TV series in America which could catapult her to stardom on the other side of the pond.

The model and actress is currently in the UK and has been spending time with her family in Rochester after the break-up of her engagement to movie actor Billy Zane and the death from cancer of her father Ken.

A friend of the Kent beauty said she was due back in the United States in the next couple of weeks to finish filming the TV series.

He said: "It is all a bit hush-hush at the moment, but it is an entertainment series which she is enjoying immensely. It is right up her street and something she is simply a natural at."

The friend said Miss Brook had been suffering in recent months and was throwing herself into her work. "Her father and the break-up left their mark, but she is

tough and will fight through it."

The friend denied reports that Miss Brook wanted to be as big as Catherine Zeta Jones, who also comes from a working-class background in Britain.

"No one is going to say no to that happening," said the friend, "but she has much more on her mind for now."

He added that she also had lots of modelling work lined up.

Miss Brook, 28, lived with Mr Zane, 42, at their 15th century home near Lenham.

It is thought they broke up because he wanted to get married as soon as possible, but she wanted to wait, saying she was still too young to wed.

A spokesman for Miss Brook said: "She is working hard at the moment, but is not looking at any film roles."

The new TV series will be broadcast in the autumn.

Find more news and sport online
www.kentnews.co.uk



GO WEST: Rochester beauty Kelly Brook is working on an American TV series

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Body found in scrubland after appeal from family

THE DISCOVERY of a body among scrubland in west Kent has been linked to the disappearance of a homeless man.

Officers found the body near Beechenlee Lane in Swanley after a call from a member of the public.

A post-mortem examination will be carried out but the death is not being treated as suspicious, police said.

David Warren, 62, of no fixed address, was last seen at the beginning of February in Dartford.

He was known to camp out in the wooded areas in and around Swanley but kept in regular contact with his family, police said.

A missing person appeal was started on Friday after members of his family grew concerned for his welfare.

The discovery of the body last Sunday afternoon has been linked with inquiries into the disappearance of Mr Warren, police said on Tuesday.

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Chlorine products are used too weakly to be a solution, says watchdog



By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

CHLORINE is the only cleaning agent that kills the superbug *Clostridium difficile* but concerns have been raised that it is not being used effectively enough in hospitals.

A study by a patients' watchdog, has found that 40 per cent of cleaning solutions used at East Kent Hospitals NHS Trust did not contain enough chlorine to kill C diff spores.

John Fletcher, of the watchdog, said: "My concern is that this is happening in hospitals around the country. Chlorine is known to kill C diff but it is not being used to maximum benefit."

Mr Fletcher worked as a plant pathologist and said controlling plant diseases had a lot in common with combating human infections. He said to be effective at killing C diff spores, chlorine has to be used at 1,000 parts per million (ppm).

The tablets used by the NHS in hospitals across Kent, as recommended under Department of Health guidelines, are called Chlor Clean and are already made at that strength. But if not dissolved properly the chlorine the strength can be affected.

He took 25 samples from cleaners' buckets at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford, the Kent and Canterbury Hospital and the QEQM Hospital in Margate.

Fifteen had chlorine levels between 900 and 1,000 ppm, optimum C diff killing strength, but seven had levels between 500 and 750 ppm and two had only 250 ppm. One contained no chlorine.

"I wanted to take more samples but it was difficult to because they only use chlorine where they have a problem with C diff."

"It is worrying that some did not have enough chlorine to kill the spores. Two of the solutions were dirty, which would have affected the strength and some had been used for too long. There is also a possibility the cleaners did not wait for the tablet to dissolve properly."

"I recommended they should not be restricting the chlorine to wards where they have an infection but also to high risk areas," Mr Fletcher said.

The trust's infection control and prevention team accepted that some of the solutions were not as effective at killing the superbug as they should be.

A spokeswoman said: "We take this issue very seriously and this is evident in our extremely low C diff rates. Trust staff work hard at resolving this issue and as a result are delighted to have one of the lowest c diff rates in the country."

She said areas that have a potential for C diff are cleaned with Chlor Clean, including toilets and isolation rooms, twice a day.

Mr Fletcher's study was part of the public patient involvement forum's final report and the samples were taken during March this year. All forums have now been abolished and replaced with Local Involvement Networks (Links).

Flats evacuated as fire spreads

UP to eight people are without homes after a fire ravaged a block of flats in Thanet.

As the blaze spread to the roof at Hawley Square around 70 firefighters and 12 fire engines were at the scene in the early hours of Wednesday.

The third and fourth floors have been left severely damaged, said firefighters.

Kent Fire and Rescue Service said initial reports that people were trapped inside proved unfounded and no one was injured. The Red Cross was on hand to care for those evacuated from six flats.

Station manager Andrew McPherson, the officer in charge, said: "It was well alight when the first crew from Margate arrived after just a few minutes and it was a difficult job because the roof had collapsed so it wasn't safe to fight from within."

Three engines remained at the scene on Wednesday morning and an investigation has been launched to discover the cause.



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When warriors invaded a peaceful seaside idyll

By **PHIL REILLY**

phil.reilly@kosmedia.co.uk

THE history of the idyllic seaside town of Sandgate is entwined with that of nearby Shorncliffe Barracks, the soldiers that have passed through it and the wars they were there to prepare for or return from.

It is now home to the fierce fighters of the Royal Gurkha Rifles, many of whom have seen recent action in Afghanistan.

Their dual identity as loyal soldiers and noble, hard-working neighbours has seen them warmly welcomed by the people of Sandgate.

However, the residents of this picturesque seaside town have not always been so proud of the soldiers up the street.

In the middle of the 19th century, long before the arrival of the Gurkhas, Sandgate was a very different place. Rather than the genteel town it is now, the Crimean War brought thousands of

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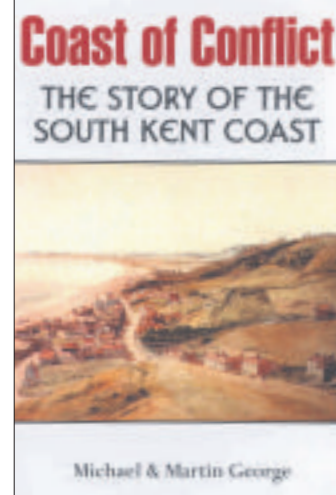
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FIGHTING TALK: The cover of Michael and Martin George's *Coast of Conflict*

Foreign Legionnaires to the nearby barracks.

Michael George, the co-author of *Coast of Conflict: The Story of the South Kent Coast*, told KOS Media that these soldiers were not such good guests.

He said: "In every garrison town in the country in history you have to expect a degree of difficulty with the soldiers."

"There are flashpoints with locals; they tend to attract the attention of fair maidens and you get a certain amount of trouble."

"During the Crimean War, for instance, Sandgate was described as full of low beer houses where soldiers could indulge their beastly tendencies to the full. There were lots of brothels and beer houses in the 1850s."

"It was the Crimean War that seems to have created that particular atmosphere."

In his book, Mr George described the tensions between the Foreign Legionnaires and the locals.

Unscrupulous traders would take advantage of the fact that soldiers were poorly fed by overcharging them for food.



Proud day for Gurkha Rifles

THE Second Battalion, the Royal Gurkha Rifles, were given the freedom of Sandgate this week.

The popular troops, based at Shorncliffe Barracks, paraded along the High Street and seafront on Monday in front of crowds of well-wishers.

They were then presented with a symbolic scroll by the Mayor of Sandgate, Geoffrey Boot.

An Army spokesman said: "It is a great honour to be conferred the freedom of Sandgate, a place where the very roots of modern soldiering were planted, and a mark of our continuing strong ties with, and place within, the local community."

Sir John Moore, often considered the founder of the modern British Army, spent some of his military career at Shorncliffe Barracks, where troops trained to fight in the Peninsular War against Napoleon.

Cllr Jan Holben, of Sandgate Town Council, said: "We often see the Gurkhas running up or down Military Road, or along The Esplanade, in training kit, usually with a weighted backpack. They are always polite and wish you a good morning or afternoon as they run past."

"If you speak to anybody here they will tell you that they are extremely proud to be associated with the Gurkhas."



AT EASE: A contemporary sketch of Legionnaires relaxing at Shorncliffe

In return, the soldiers would steal from them. Sheep would disappear from fields, with some Legionnaires reported to have secretly roasted them.

Writing in the 1930s in his book *Saunters Through Kent*, Charles Iggesden recalled the relationship between the town and the Legionnaires.

He wrote: "The foreign legion stationed at Shorncliffe Camp consisted of the scallywags of the Continent, mainly Germans, and intense hatred existed between them and the peace-loving people of Sandgate."

"The feud sometimes resulted in street fighting of the old-fashioned sort, and the legionnaires usually came off second when they reeled about the streets in small batches."

He went on to describe a particular pitched battle between "all the young bloods of Sandgate" and "furious legionnaires".

The soldiers drove the civilians into the side streets, Iggesden wrote: "But the lights in the bar of the Military Inn attracted them; they had already smelt blood and those bottles on the shelf were at their mercy."

"Into the bar they rushed, leapt the counter, and in a few minutes not a bottle of liquor was left."

Of course, he was writing between the world wars, so anti-German sentiment may have coloured his version of history.

Nonetheless, it is clear the locals and the soldiers of Shorncliffe have not always been friendly neighbours as they are today.

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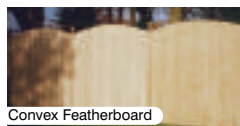
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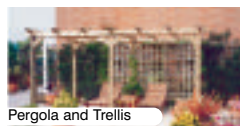


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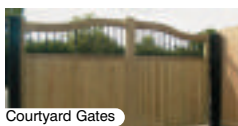


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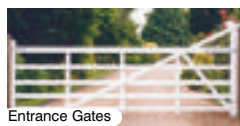


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The stylish 60s

A PHOTOGRAPHY exhibition that provides an insight into life in Dover during the 50s and 60s is being held in the coastal town's museum.

During World War Two, Nazi bombs and shells had destroyed or damaged two thirds of the 'old town' by 1945.

The architecture and townscape changed dramatically over the next two decades, as the new stairwell exhibition at Dover Museum shows.

Mark Frost, the curator, said: "The town was levelled after the war. The exhibition is set in the period when the Dover we know today was developed."

New building projects were begun in the 1950s, including the Gateway Flats on the seafront, the

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

public gardens and the Dover Stage Hotel.

Mr Frost added: "All the new architecture was very exciting and new and modern. Some has dated more than others."

"One of my favourites was the Dover Stage Hotel, which was a very iconic 50s design that was demolished in the early 90s."

"It was a strong period for architecture, the 50s and 60s, there was such hope and looking to the future and yet today most people look back at it with derision."

He said at the time people hated Victorian-style houses; most remaining period homes in Dover were destroyed after the war.

"There was no money left for

redevelopment. For 10 years all these burned out buildings just sat there. They started to demolish it and then there were huge open gaps."

The idea of all the new buildings was treated with optimism, including the Gateway Flats, which to this day dominate the town's landscape.

"The flats won national architecture awards. They must have been the best council flats in the world with that view."

"It was very forward thinking to put council flats in that position rather than sell the land to private developers. They decided to build them for the people of Dover who had been bombed out and living in prefabricated buildings on the outskirts," Mr Frost added.

Other memorabilia and nostalgic images are on show at the museum until Wednesday, August 20.

Diners to bid on works of art to raise charity cash

A MYSTERY auction is being held in aid of a Kent-based children's charity.

Proceeds from the event will go to The Caldecott Foundation in Smeeth, near Ashford, which cares for children who have been severely neglected or mistreated.

Auctioneer Clive Emson, who works in the county, will invite guests to bid on artwork donated to the events.

But bidders may not know if they have won a painting from a top artist or a work by one of Caldecott's own young people.

The auction, which has attracted prestigious names from the art world, will follow a champagne reception and dinner on Saturday, June 7.

Samantha Scott, the charity's chief fundraiser, said: "We think this is a brilliant and unusual way to raise funds, with the added excitement and fun that when guests bid in the auction, they might not recognise who has painted the picture they're going to be taking home."

The charity provides residential accommodation and an on-site school for some of the county's more neglected and mistreated children.

Tickets for the auction are available by emailing Samantha.scott@caldecottfoundation.co.uk or writing to her at The Caldecott Foundation, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Kent, TN25 6SP.

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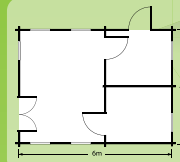
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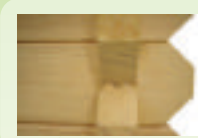
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Charity's training will open up the world of work

A CHARITY has launched a training programme to help young people with learning disabilities find work.

Forward2Work is a scheme run by Popenbury, which is based in Pembury near Tunbridge Wells, aimed at equipping young people who have learning disabilities, ADHD and autistic spectrum disorders with the skills they need in the workplace.

A spokesman said: "The programme helps them build self-confidence, realise their full

potential and ultimately take control of their lives. It provides quality training and work-based learning, hands-on work experience and supported employment."

Vocational training accredited by City and Guilds is offered in catering, retail, gardening, IT, office skills and social care.

The programme will begin on May 26. Popenbury provides a residential and day service for adults with learning disabilities, challenging behaviour and complex care needs.

Flood problems? Leave it to beaver

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jennapudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

BEAVERS could help solve the country's flooding problems, according to a Kent conservation charity.

The Wildwood Trust, based near Canterbury, and other conservationists, advised the Government's Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee ahead of its report on UK flooding, published on Wednesday.

Peter Smith, the trust's chief executive, said: "While the rainfall we have been witnessing is very high, to blame it on global warming is to miss the point, as these rainfall patterns are not that uncommon in the UK."

"The real culprit is how rainfall rushes off our land, which has seen hundreds of millions of pounds spent in creating a system of drains."

"With no wetlands, trees or undeveloped flood plains to stop this water, it rushes off fields into drainage systems and is funneled into rivers, where it creates the devastating problems."

He said re-establishing natural wetlands and species such as European beaver and wild horses, initiatives currently run by the trust, would restore nature's own flood defences.

"This can be achieved for a fraction of the cost that taxpayers are already incurring, save us billions in the future and will create a carbon sink to help neutralise climate change and give future generations a natural heritage to be proud of, Mr Smith said."

"The Netherlands has already developed systems for re-creating wetlands, while at the same time providing safety for homes and communities."

Beaver dams improve water quality, produce new habitats for fish and help reduce flooding downstream, Mr



EAGER TO HELP: Reintroducing beavers to the UK could help reduce the consequences of flooding

Smith said. He added that their skills as foresters and engineers create and maintain ponds and wetlands.

Wetlands are important because they increase biodiversity, purify water and prevent large-scale flooding.

The animals have been reintroduced in other countries, including France, Germany and Denmark, without damage to agriculture the charity said.

In this country, beavers were hunted to extinction in the 17th century for their pelts, meat and musk glands, which had medical properties.

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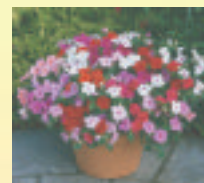
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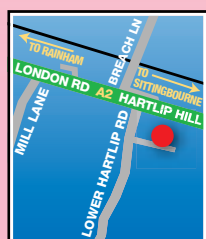
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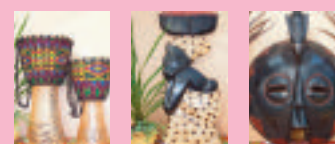


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WHEN children and young people have grown up abused and neglected by their own family, how can they learn to trust strangers?

This is the problem that faces Kent foster parents Christine and John, who welcome some of the county's most damaged and emotionally scarred children into their home.

Christine said: "These children have been through neglect and abuse. They are quite often traumatised and have difficulties living in a family environment."

"I have cared for children who have been left on their own, locked in bedrooms, while Mummy has gone out to feed her drug habit."

"They are scared. How are they going to learn to trust people when they have not been able to trust their own family?"

"They must think, 'Are these people who they say they are? Will they protect me and keep me safe? Can I believe what they are telling me?'"

The true identity of this remarkable couple cannot be revealed, in order to protect the children they care for.

To win the trust of these children, Christine said they needed to be constantly reassured that they won't be beaten or left without food, through getting them into regular routines

and setting boundaries.

She said the children often have no idea how to brush their teeth, wash or change their clothes because no one has ever shown them. The husband and wife are helped by a team of child psychiatrists, social workers, therapists and anyone else they need advice from at monthly meetings about the child in care's development. They care for one child at a time through a Kent County Council-run scheme called TRP (therapeutic re-parenting), which allows severely traumatised youngsters, aged four to 11, to learn how to form bonds with people until

they are ready to move on to a long-term foster family or be adopted.

"They want to feel they are needed and wanted," Christine said. "They test out to see how far they can push you to discover your 'stickability'."

"They have usually been through multiple placements and moved around, which is one of the reasons this scheme was set up."

The couple have been fostering for eight years and said the last little boy they cared for stayed for three years before he was ready to trust people and live in a 'normal' family environment.

The 59-year-old, who used to work in a residential home for damaged children, said: "They would think nothing of smashing windows, scaring the pants off people, but they don't scare me because there are reasons for their behaviour."

"I believe there is a way of getting through to all of them."

An eight-year-old boy has been staying with the couple since November. He came to them with terrible bed-wetting problems, which have now cleared up.

The neglected child, who never knew where his next meal was coming from, was part of a big family and his mother, who is ill, was unable to look after him properly.

Christine said the change in his personality was amazing – he is now taking part in after-school activities such as Beavers and is joining a drama club.

She added: "We never have two days the same – it can be fun and rewarding to see the changes in these children."

"Seeing them move on is brilliant. Of course it's hard to say goodbye, but if we kept them it would stop us helping another child."



HUMAN TOUCH:
Teaching neglected children how to trust other people is an important step towards reclaiming a 'normal' life

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PLACING newborn babies and their mothers with foster families is part of a drive to break the cycle of children going into care.

Sue Skinner, who lives in Dover, helps new mothers learn how to look after their baby, give their child a bath and budget for themselves until they are able to live independently.

"Sometimes they can be scared to pick up a phone and make an appointment," she said.

"It is things that, if you had your own daughter, you would help them with, such as sex education. A lot of them have not had a family life or have had a difficult family life, so you treat them as family."

Ms Skinner said the majority of new mothers she helped were young, but that they do not come into care simply because of their age.

"The mums and babies come from all

BABY BONDING: Foster families can help new mothers cope with the basics

walks of life. It could be that the young mum has been in care and got pregnant and has not had a mother-figure in her life.

"It is about introducing her to family life so she can begin to bond with baby."

"I'm on my third mum and baby and I have not had a failure yet. Although there are some cases where mum cannot cope and just leaves, so the baby stays with the foster carer until everything is decided," she said.

The 53-year-old also fosters babies aged up to eight months old. She said: "The last one broke my heart. I'd had him since he was six-hours-old. Until just before he was eight months, he was calling me Mum."

If new mothers put their baby up for adoption, they go into foster care until the assessments are done.

"It can take months, which is a shame really, because they miss out on so much – the baby's first tooth, first step, first word. So I always make sure I have a little book to write everything down in, so when they're passed to

mum they know everything about the baby."

Ms Skinner is a single mother and encourages other single women to become foster carers.

She said: "In an ideal world there would be a husband and wife who raise their kids equally. But it's not a perfect world and there are not a lot of people together any more."

"When my boy goes to school there are hardly any children who have parents living together."

Ms Skinner has a 10-year-old boy – a foster child she is now in the process of adopting.

And she celebrated passing an NVQ level three last week. She was inspired to study by her experiences as a foster carer. She said: "I'm dyslexic, so I'm really proud of myself."

And after four-and-a-half years as a carer, what is the best thing about the role?

"It's the satisfaction, knowing they are going on to cope in life – knowing they have bonded with that baby," she said.

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TANYA here, have a good family, some 14 and curvy, seeking tall, muscular, outgoing guy for socialising and more. Box 438300 TTX

FUN, fifty female, nearly 30, petite with dark hair, bored of being single, seeking someone to take out and show me a good time. Box 438349 TTX

SINGLE mum of two, 29, bubbly, bright, 5'8, brown hair, green eyes, size 14 and curvy, seeking tall, muscular, outgoing guy for socialising and more. Box 438300 TTX

31YO Chinese girl, 5'4, slim, no children, seeking tall, white, loving, caring, all-Asian male for serious relationship. Box 438331 TTX

BLACK female, 32, 5'8, likes nice, caring, reading, going out, WLM a nice man 34-50, down-to-earth and fun to be with, to find out more. Box 438365 TTX

HI I'm Cheryl, 31, 5'10, blonde, size 10, have 2 girls, I like walking, the gym and socialising, seeking a similar male for potential partnership. Box 437744 TTX

See online for:

• Success Stories

Read or write your own Success Story. Our members have been keen to write about their stories and how they met - who knows, their stories may help you in your search! We are always glad to hear from you.

• Increase your dating success

Online, say more about yourself and your perfect partner with our extended profile, add extra photos to your profile, even change your ad's colour! It makes for a great dating advert that other people are bound to like!

• Search at your leisure

If you can't find who you're looking for on our page here, you will find so many more members online. Browse, read, hear and see members.

www.people2people.co.uk/kos.asp

TALL, black, pretty female, 31, new to the Chatham area, loves watching football, shopping, travel; seeking tall, white, loving male 34-47 for LTR. Box 437778 TTX

SINGLE Mum, 30, 5'10, short brown hair, petite, loves clubs, eating out, nights in, seeking Mr Right for friendship, maybe more. Box 437855 TTX

UPBEAT girl, 31, bored silly and just looking for friends to go out and have a laugh with, nothing else. Preferably students in the Canterbury. Box 895165 TTX

32YR old woman, 5'9, brown hair, curvy figure, I enjoy having fun and a laugh and WLM nice, kind gent. Box 439402 TTX

SINGLE Mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5'8, dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, some drinks, meals and more with. Box 438941 TTX

LIVELY, attractive female, 32, 5'5", looking to meet that someone special to share life, laughter and love. Box 429124 TTX

CARING, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 TTX

SINGLE Mum, 42, 32, would like to meet someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in/out and cinema. Box 406670 TTX

HI I'm 33, from Canterbury, non-work as have heart problems, looking to meet someone who's kind, honest, loving and affectionate for romantic times. Box 436785 TTX

MUM of 1, I'm 5'4, blonde hair, slim, young looking, 24yrs old, I'm caring, honest, with a GSOH, I like keep-fit, cinema, dancing, days out. Box 431559 TTX

OUTGOING, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5'10, brown hair/eyes, Tonbridge. Seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 439107 TTX

KENT female, 39, 5'7", dark eyes, GSOH, no ties, likes cosy nights in, socialising, country pubs, cinema, seeks loyal, caring male, for friendship and more. Box 152662 TTX

ATTRACTIVE 39yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901892 TTX

BUBBLY, separated female, 40, slim, love meeting new people and enjoying life, looking for an understanding man for happiness. Box 895245 TTX

DECENT 39yr old female, medium build, fair hair, 5'6", likes cinema, eating and having fun, seeks like-minded male, 36-40, for friendship first. Box 73664 TTX

HELLO I'm 41, a single Mum, professional, Chinese, lacking taste of dance and looking to meet someone to share my life and be there for me. Box 439849 TTX

BUBBLY 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs, WLM a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102 TTX

41YR old female, separated with 3 children, medium build, dark hair, seeking a male to share life with and again who enjoys socialising, cinema, music and holidays! Box 437639 TTX

HI I'm a fun-loving woman early 40, 5'1", curvy, enjoy eating out and cooking to meet someone who's kind, honest, loving and affectionate for romantic times. Box 864398 TTX

I'M Caroline, 42, single mum, likes having fun, eating out, wine bars, swimming, looking for someone for something meaningful. Box 430952 TTX

FUN-LOVING, affectionate brunette, 42, size 12, N/S, separated amicably with 2 lovely kids, enjoys keeping fit. Seeks good-looking, slim, fit, romantic male. Box 614378 TTX

BUBBLY female, 41, 5'2", N/S, enjoys pubs, restaurants, cinema, GSOH, interior design, seeks like minded, fun male for good times. Box 822703 TTX

TALL, outgoing lady, 43, large build, newly settled in Kent, needs to spread her wings and meet a nice chap! Let's chat! Box 895908 TTX

HARD-WORKING female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156 TTX

44YR old female, dark hair, brown eyes, 5'6", fun-loving, love socialising, cinema, chilling out, seeking a similar male to fall in love with. Box 439885 TTX

PETITE, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, WLM nice man to share things with. Box 429882 TTX

44YR old female, blonde hair, 5'5", slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810 TTX

ONE woman, 45, no lies, one tie, honest, warm and kind. Are you tall, honest, single, motivated and open to life? If so get in touch... Box 918163 TTX

HI I'm 46, Music, laughing, sensitivity and love, I guess that's what I want, but with someone special, are you in? Box 156956 TTX

FRIENDLY, bubbly, fun-loving woman, 45, 5'4", GSOH, enjoys socialising, pubs, music, eating in/out, homecar, smoker, looking for honest man 44-55, who enjoys life. Box 823441 TTX

CARING, honest 49yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead. Likes cinema, theatre, walking, WLM male for fun and friendship. Box 895528 TTX

SALLY, 46yr old woman, small and slim, brown hair with hazel eyes, likes music, films, animals, days out and snuggling on the sofa. Box 893566 TTX

OUTGOING football coach, 47, great GSOH, loving and honest, common-speak but a nice person! 5 children, 7 grandchildren, seeking honest female for companionship and love. Box 437840 TTX

I'M Dawn, 47, quite shy and reserved, looking for someone special! I'm 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, active, have one dog, work full time. Box 438796 TTX

HI I'm Sue, 48, 5'2", dark hair/eyes, divorced, hard-working, WLM compatible male, stocky build, for good times, possibly LTR. Box 432992 TTX

MARLENE, 48, blonde, medium build, likes 4x4s, the gym, quad-biking, a glass of wine, cinema, rugby/soccer/cricket, WLM sincere young guy for friendship/companionship and who knows. Box 894117 TTX

HAPPY, fit, youthful 48yr old single mum, OHAC, very good sense of humour, Likes all the normal social things. Seeking sincere, stable, solvent man. Box 895293 TTX

FUN loving 48yr old woman, I enjoy winning and dining, romantic strolls. WLM handsome, caring, adventurous man, 45-50, Box 438554 TTX

PETITE brunette, bubbly and friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things. WLM genuine male to see where life takes us! Box 893962 TTX

GENUINE, friendly female, 49, likes books, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55. Dover. Box 434541 TTX

49YR old female, 5'2", dark hair, blue eyes, GSOH, very active, likes clubs and dining out, seeks someone with similar interests. Box 435098 TTX

49YR female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, dining, love and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 TTX

LOVELY female, 49, divorced, 5'10, shoulder-length blonde hair, green eyes, size 16, likes dining out, staying in, walks in the country, seeking LTR with similar male. Box 437729 TTX

YOUNG-LOOKING, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50, Aylesford. Box 428833 TTX

LOVING and lovely 50yr old female, GSOH, enjoys walking, countryside, cinema, theatre, pubs, restaurants, music, travel, seeks sincere and loving male between 48-56 for friendship. Box 909974 TTX

LOVING, lively, cuddly female, 50, 5'4", loves rock music, walking, films, WLM easygoing male for uncomplicated relationship, good times. Box 894299 TTX

50YR old woman, hard working, caring, divorced, looking to have that sparkle back in my life, can you provide it? Box 893611 TTX

YOUNG female, 50, 5'5", slim, bubbly, outgoing, GSOH, love animals, walks, eating out, nights in with wine, seeks genuine male 45-55 for friendship. Box 439007 TTX

HI I'm 51, with 2 children, love tennis and pubs, walks, travelling, WLM a gent from any background and of any interests for potential relationship. Box 438993 TTX

I'M Karen 51, 5'9, blonde, blue-eyed, medium build, VGSOH, considerate, like keeping fit, romantic nights in/out, bowling, tennis, lots of sports, seeking male for relationship! Box 893277 TTX

LOYAL, bubbly and affectionate, attractive lady, 51, dark hair, enjoys clubs, nights in, love animals, seeking a like-minded gent for happiness. Box 433855 TTX

I'M Vette, 50, separated, blonde hair/blue eyes, size 12, 5'2", likes cinema, meals and drinks out, reading, walks, looking for male, 40-60, for relationship. Box 420160 TTX

51YR old young female, separated, 2 grown-up children, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes gardening, reading, travelling; seeking a nice gent for company and perhaps more. Box 439670 TTX

HI I'm kind, caring, attractive lady, 53yr young, 5'7", brown hair/eyes, GSOH, enjoy walks, reading, travelling etc, WLM tall, considerate man for friendship, possibly LTR. Box 438023 TTX

LIVELY understanding female, 51, large build, WLM genuine, loving male, 46-58, for lasting, loving relationship. Faversham. Box 399271 TTX

BRIGHT, recently divorced, 52, 5'4", blonde hair, bubbly, divorced, own home and car, enjoy cinema, eating out, drinks, looking for companionship and friendship. Box 418865 TTX

HAPPILY divorced female, 56, 5'4", slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive, intelligent, likes a laugh, the cinema, cooking, walks: WLM compatible male for everyday romance... Box 432321 TTX

DIVORCED female, 50's, 5'4", own home, great job and friends, likes to keep fit, hobbies include shopping, cooking, dining out, theatre/cinema, holidays, seeking friendship and more. Box 434901 TTX

51YR old woman, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, GSOH, very active, likes clubs and dining out, seeks someone with similar interests. Box 435098 TTX

49YR female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, dining, love and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 TTX

YOUNG-AT-HEART female, 48, medium build, 5'12, dark hair, blue eyes, GSOH, very active, likes clubs and dining out, seeks someone with similar interests. Box 435098 TTX

49YR female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, dining, love and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 TTX

LOVELY female, 49, divorced, 5'10, shoulder-length blonde hair, green eyes, size 16, likes dining out, staying in, walks in the country, seeking LTR with similar male. Box 437729 TTX

YOUNG-LOOKING, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50, Aylesford. Box 428833 TTX

LOVING and lovely 50yr old female, GSOH, enjoys walking, countryside, cinema, theatre, pubs, restaurants, music, travel, seeks sincere and loving male between 48-56 for friendship. Box 909974 TTX

LOVING, lively, cuddly female, 50, 5'4", loves rock music, walking, films, WLM easygoing male for uncomplicated relationship, good times. Box 894299 TTX

50YR old woman, hard working, caring, divorced, looking to have that sparkle back in my life, can you provide it? Box 893611 TTX

YOUNG female, 50, 5'5", slim, bubbly, outgoing, GSOH, love animals, walks, eating out, nights in with wine, seeks genuine male 45-55 for friendship. Box 439007 TTX

HI I'm 51, with 2 children, love tennis and pubs, walks, travelling, WLM a gent from any background and of any interests for potential relationship. Box 438993 TTX

I'M Karen 51, 5'9, blonde, blue-eyed, medium build, VGSOH, considerate, like keeping fit, romantic nights in/out, bowling, tennis, lots of sports, seeking male for relationship! Box 893277 TTX

LOYAL, bubbly and affectionate, attractive lady, 51, dark hair, enjoys clubs, nights in, love animals, seeking a like-minded gent for happiness. Box 433855 TTX

I'M Vette, 50, separated, blonde hair/blue eyes, size 12, 5'2", likes cinema, meals and drinks out, reading, walks, looking for male, 40-60, for relationship. Box 420160 TTX

51YR old young female, separated, 2 grown-up children, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes gardening, reading, travelling; seeking a nice gent for company and perhaps more. Box 439670 TTX

HI I'm kind, caring, attractive lady, 53yr young, 5'7", brown hair/eyes, GSOH, enjoy walks, reading, travelling etc, WLM tall, considerate man for friendship, possibly LTR. Box 438023 TTX

LIVELY understanding female, 51, large build, WLM genuine, loving male, 46-58, for lasting, loving relationship. Faversham. Box 399271 TTX

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HAPPILY divorced female, 56, 5'4", slim, blonde hair, blue eyes, attractive, intelligent, likes a laugh, the cinema, cooking, walks: WLM compatible male for everyday romance... Box 432321 TTX

DIVORCED female, 50's, 5'4", own home, great job and friends, likes to keep fit, hobbies include shopping, cooking, dining out, theatre/cinema, holidays, seeking friendship and more. Box 434901 TTX

51YR old woman, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, GSOH, very active, likes clubs and dining out, seeks someone with similar interests. Box 435098 TTX

49YR female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, dining, love and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 TTX

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51YR old woman, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, GSOH, very active, likes clubs and dining out, seeks someone with similar interests. Box 435098 TTX

49YR female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, dining, love and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 TTX

LOVELY female, 49, divorced, 5'10, shoulder-length blonde hair, green eyes, size 16, likes dining out, staying in, walks in the country, seeking LTR with similar male. Box 437729 TTX

PARTIALLY disabled, 58yr old country woman, 5'5", fairly attractive, enjoys gardening, home life, WLM country loving man for company and companionship. Box 438993 TTX

YOUNG, 58yr old modern female widow, slim, enjoys nights in/out, socialising, seeking honest, reliable man for friendship, love, affection and TLC. Box 920739 TTX

HAPPY, contented solvent lady, 59, N/S, living in the county near Hythe, seeks gentleman of similar disposition and means. Box 897822 TTX

N/S female, 59, grey hair, blue eyes, 5'4", enjoys most things in life! still loves, WLM someone for friendship and companionship, perhaps more. Box 439570 TTX

CLASSY, intelligent, divorced, attractive lady, 59, slim, active: enjoys travel, walking, holidays, sport, gardening, WLM sincere, intelligent gentleman initially for friendship, maybe more. Box 910138 TTX

SOLVED, cuddly female, 59, 5'1", love the countryside, foreign travel: seeks happy, solvent male, 50s-62 for affection! LTR. Box 394179 TTX

42YR old woman, 5'6", blonde hair, blue eyes, GSOH, very active, likes clubs and dining out, seeks someone with similar interests. Box 435098 TTX

49YR female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular winning, dining, love and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 TTX

LOVELY female, 49, divorced, 5'10, shoulder-length blonde hair, green eyes, size 16, likes dining out, staying in, walks in the country, seeking LTR with similar male. Box 437729 TTX

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I'M Karen 51, 5'9, blonde, blue-eyed, medium build, VGSOH, considerate, like keeping fit, romantic nights in/out, bowling, tennis, lots of sports, seeking male for relationship! Box 893277 TTX

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LIVELY understanding female, 51, large build, WLM genuine, loving male, 46-58, for lasting, loving relationship. Faversham. Box 399271 TTX

WARM, sincere, N/S, eligible, stimulating, 46, well groomed, OHAC, 5'10", slim/medium, settled but playful, seeks similar lady to share LTR and smiles. Box 324095 TTX

THOUGHTFUL male, 49, 5'7", slim/medium build, short brown hair, looking for bubbly, outgoing lady to share romantic times together. Like winging/dining, country walks, cooking etc. Box 419208 TTX

HI I'm 50 with two grown up kids, love country pubs, walks, life, GSOH, WLM a nice lady to get to know of any age. Box 439922 TTX

50YR old man, looking for black lady, 30-40, I like to have fun, going out, sports, WLM someone similar to me. Maidstone. Like what you read? Box 439057 TTX

HI there, 50yr old male, 6'10, short hair, I love the cinema, walks, going out, visiting new places, WLM a GSOH for like-minded conversation and friendship. Box 437486 TTX

KIND male, 50, 5'11, slim, N/S, two boys (18 and 16), likes eating out, visiting London, weekends, looking for kind, caring lady. Looks not important. Box 425308 TTX

OLIVE-SKINNED, 5'11 tall, 50yr old, looking for short, blonde, 40-50, seeking down to earth lady to share happy times. Box 914972 TTX

FUN-LOVING male, 52, likes going out, playing golf, motor cycles, socialising, visiting new places, WLM an interesting female. Box 427713 TTX

I'M 53, 5'9, good-looking! Love sports, horses, animals generally. WLM an honest, caring lady, preferably blonde, sporty, to get to know. Box 439298 TTX

GARY, 55 years old, 6'3", large build, ex doctor, social, loving, looking for someone to love and to have fun times with. Box 900009 TTX

PHILIP, 57, from Canterbury, down-to-earth, genuine, caring, 5'6", enjoys the usual things - socialising, walks, holidays, looking for friendship, companionship, possibly LTR. Box 439848 TTX

HI I'm Steve, 62, own business, 5'10", blue eyes, short black hair, like cosy nights in, holidays, animals, seek female, to love and romance. Box 429275 TTX

OPEN and honest 64 year old, divorced male, enjoys walks and talks, meals in or out, seeks lady of similar disposition, for friendship possibly more. Box 898662 TTX

I'M a Ragsdale man, N/S, 66, 5'9", fit and active, sincere, compatible, caring person, seeking romantic lady for LTR. Like dancing, dining, beach walks, arts/theatre. Box 435776 TTX

ROMANTIC, young looking 67yr old guy, 5'11", I enjoy theatre, films, holidays, meals out, countryside. WLM fantastic, slim woman. Box 43920

Proud day for pupils

FORMER Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher met children at a military school in Kent.

Baroness Thatcher, 82, spoke to pupils at the Duke of York's Royal Military School in Dover, including the son of a veteran of the Falklands War.

An Army spokesman said: "A close friend of Baroness Thatcher who used to be a commissioner of the school, Sir John Carter, spoke with her about the school and she expressed an interest in visiting as a personal expression of support for our service personnel."

The Duke of York's Royal Military School was founded in 1803 by the younger son of King George III, Field Marshall Frederick Duke of York, in Chelsea. The school moved to Dover in 1909 and provides boarding education for the children of those serving in the British military. It is maintained and funded by the Ministry of Defence.

After a light lunch with the headmaster Charles Johnson, the chief school prefect, head boy and head girl, Baroness Thatcher inspected the whole school on parade and watched a display by its 115-strong military band.

By **JAMIE MCGINNES**

jamie.mcginnes@kosmedia.co.uk

Lady Thatcher made the inaugural presentation of the Baroness Thatcher Sword of Honour to the most outstanding junior under officer.

Visits were made to boarding houses where Baroness Thatcher was introduced to some pupils. Among those present were some whose parents were deployed in the Army and RAF, as well as two Army sixth-form scholars presently in the school.

She was also introduced to the son of a submariner veteran of the Falklands War. A chapel service was then held for the whole school to mark her visit when the school colours were blessed.

Mr Johnson said the children thoroughly enjoyed the visit and felt that it was a great privilege to meet Baroness Thatcher.

"Education is all about opportunity and our pupils were able to be introduced and chat informally to one of the outstanding political leaders of our time," he said.

"This is something which will stay with them all their lives."

The private visit was on Friday, April 25.



HONOUR: Baroness Thatcher with some pupils of the Royal Military College, Dover



INTRODUCTIONS: Lady Thatcher meets pupils and presents the Baroness Thatcher Sword of Honour to the most outstanding junior under officer during her visit



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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

The English 'wow' factor is symbolic

AS internationally acclaimed artists vie to create an "Angel of the South" in Kent, one design has already made quite an impression.

The five artists have all produced interesting proposals for the £2 million Ebbsfleet Landmark Project, which will be one of the first things Eurostar passengers see when they emerge from the Channel Tunnel.

Richard Deacon's abstract sculpture is made up of steel latticework, creating a delicate outline of shapes. It is made to resemble a cairn, a pile of stones historically used as a landmark.

The design is supposed to represent the number of letters in the alphabet.

On the other side of the scale, Mark Wallinger's 33 times life-size white horse seems the obvious choice.

The current Turner Prize winner's creation has its roots in history and is seeped specifically in a Kentish past.

Wallinger's design reminds us of the origins of Kent's Invicta horse symbol. 'Horsa' was the name of the semi-mythological leader of the Anglo-Saxons who landed near Ebbsfleet.

It seems most apt to mark the creation of a new town in Kent with a reminder of a major stage in the county's development.

The sculpture itself, a faithful rendering of a thoroughbred racehorse in all but its size, is also modern and fun.

Some have labelled it kitsch and raised concerns that after the initial 'wow' factor people will get sick of seeing it. But it has also been praised for being "rich in English symbolism" and "nicely normal".

Certainly it would make an impact and a discussion point for tourists and locals alike.

OPINION: Inevitability of the euro

As we live in an increasingly globalised world the single currency will become a necessity, says PHIL REILLY



THERE will come a time, though many would not like to admit it, when the United Kingdom will bid adieu to pounds and pence and say bonjour to euros and cents.

It may be in five years, or 10 or 20 or 30, but it will happen.

This year marks a decade since the single currency was launched and it is now as strong as it has ever been.

The global economy is undergoing some fundamental shifts, paving the way for a new world order in the 21st century.

The credit crunch is causing problems for the Western economies and demand for food and oil in developing countries is ramping up prices globally.

But it is not just the negative effects of globalisation that are becoming apparent.

As Fareed Zakaria's recent Newsweek article The Rise of the Rest pointed out, the biggest building in the world is planned for Dubai, the biggest movie industry is in India and the biggest public company is in Beijing. Perhaps, after decades

dominated by America and the West, we are witnessing a worldwide levelling of the playing field.

It is against this backdrop that the big decisions about the UK's role in the world will be decided.

Competition between huge economic blocs – China, India, Russia, Brazil, the US and Europe – will define the way business is done in the decades to come.

Despite the howls of the Eurosceptics, there is a strong case to be made that unless we fight together with Europe we will wither alone.

Like it or lump it, we are in Europe and no amount of hand wringing over red lines in documents that may or may not be constitutions is going to change that.

So, short of a full scale departure from the European Union – a policy no mainstream party would even consider advocating – the way forward for the UK is to find the best way to work within Europe.

One inevitable way of doing this is to make trading within the EU as straightforward as possible.

Gordon Brown, in one of his wiser moments in charge of the Treasury, set out a pragmatic approach to the euro question.

We will join, he said, but only when it is right for us.

Fair enough. There is also no doubt that, despite the strength of the euro against the pound, this is not the time. It's not even close.

Mr Brown was very specific in what was required for the UK to join the euro, creating five tests.

These included 'sustainable convergence' between the UK and the eurozone. Put simply, if the UK is in recession while Europe is booming, the UK's recovery could be hurt by the high interest rates on the Continent.

Other tests ask whether the UK's financial services industry

will be adversely affected – will Frankfurt replace London as the money capital of Europe? – and how the euro could affect employment at home.

On these questions Europhiles and Eurosceptics have differing views.

The fact remains that the economies in the UK, Europe and the wider world are in a state of flux.

At some point down the line the numbers will be more convincing, and when that time comes a choice will have to be made.

The sensible choice will be for the UK to tie itself to Europe even tighter than it has done so far.

As unpalatable as that may be to some it may be the only way we will be able to compete with the economic powerhouses of the new world.

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Accusations are wrong

With reference to your article in last week's newspaper concerning the Conservative Thanet District Council leader Cllr Sandy Ezekiel's appalling behaviour at the Mayor of Margate's retiring ball I would like to make the following comments.

Any suggestion whatsoever that I somehow "ambushed" Cllr Ezekiel is completely and utterly wrong.

First, over the past year this particularly spurious and malicious accusation made by the Tory TDC leader in an attempt to cover up his own appalling behaviour has been rigorously investigated by the CPS, the police and the Standards Board and thrown out by all three.

Second, at all times I was simply too far away from the incident and third, I was enjoying a lovely evening in the company of my cherished wife whom I would never put in any danger.

Furthermore, following the same year of exhaustive investigations, the Standards Board report clearly states that absolutely no evidence was found of any failure on my part to comply with the Code of Conduct.

The fact is that, based to a significant extent upon his own evidence, Cllr Ezekiel was found to have been offensive and discourteous and my only involvement in the whole incident was to be loudly and disgustingly verbally abused and goaded across a room by the Tory leader, who had already done the same thing to the mayor and his town sergeant at a prestigious civic event.

Cllr Clive Hart
Margate

TV is wasting our cash

Cllr Paul Carter, the leader of Kent County Council is a pastmaster of the "we're not to blame" school.

He is always complaining that lack of money accounts for KCC's many failings, yet he cannot resist blowing money on 'Carter TV' a far-

We need to be more logical about violence in computer games

In your article 'A culture of fear links the King to Grand Theft Auto', you put moral panic as the reason for parents' complaints.

In simple terms, one has to ask the question; is it alright to show scenes of killings, prostitutes and drug dealing to children of all ages? I would assume the intelligent answer would be no. But, sadly, this is clearly not the case. All of the above are prevalent in GTA, pictured, and Manhunt 2. We know there is an 18 certificate, but lets not fool ourselves, most ages will get to play it at some point regardless of parental influence.

Scientifically we already know playing these games and watching violent movies will not necessarily make us violent. But, it is those who are already of a violent nature who are prone to carry out copycat versions of what they see on screen.

There have been a number of articles recently that have interviewed kids from 13 to 18 who constantly commit street crime,

many of which have said they watch it on screen and just want to go out and do it. To them it is a buzz. These games simply endorse these actions - they feed on certain children's weaknesses making their creators very rich in the process.

I am not condemning computer games, only this kind of desperate violence.

The attitudes of young kids have changed dramatically over the last decade. Gangs are on the increase. People are afraid to approach them for fear of their lives in many cases. Are we getting the message? Can't we see that the media reflects life, and we in turn (some of us) reflect the media. It is a mirror effect and the only way to solve this is to remove the mirror.

This is not moral panic; this is a human concern for the future of the species. Parents need to act immediately to have these games toned down or removed. They are a threat to society. In ten years' time will the whole fam-



ily be prisoners in their own houses? Afraid to venture out after dark?

Clearly, Leslie Benzie is out of whack with his Elvis statement. I don't remember the King carrying out anything remotely connected to the above game.

Philip James
Broadstairs

cical outfit to promote the body of which he is leader.

He then wastes more money on a quarterly

glossy delivered to every household in Kent with similar aims to Carter TV.

No doubt councillors will soon follow our

greedy MPs in upping their over-generous pay and allowances too.

Fred Tudsford
Canterbury

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

Keepers know the land

This letter is in response to the article referring to the RSPB's claim that shooting

Letters continued on p34

How Assisted Living can save the family silver

It's one of the most difficult questions a family has to face: Where should Mum or Dad live when they need extra comfort and care in later life? Staying in the old house or moving to a 'granny flat' is probably not an option. They dislike the idea of a residential home while the cost - likely to be £400 a week or more - could mean selling the family silver.

But now there is a third way, combining all the advantages of owning your own home with 24-hour support and a hotel-quality lifestyle.

It's called Assisted Living - and it has come to Margate at Darwin Court courtesy of McCarthy & Stone.

Instead of paying fees for living and bed space, residents own their self-

contained apartment while enjoying the services of staff on duty around the clock, a waitress-service restaurant and domestic assistance that can be tailored to the needs of individual residents.

McCarthy & Stone has calculated that buying into an Assisted Living development can result in savings of £100,000 or more compared with the cost of staying in a residential home for a period of 10 years.

Furthermore, it involves no loss of independence or status as a homeowner.

Anyone with £250,000 to invest from the sale of their house, and a disposable income of £12,500, would lose around £80,000 of capital after 10 years of paying £450 a week in a modestly-priced residential home.

But in an Assisted Living apartment, their assets could well have grown to over £300,000* - leaving them or their beneficiaries £150,000 better off by comparison.

This calculation includes the cost of an hour of domestic assistance every week, offset by a Government attendance allowance that

about half of the residents at McCarthy & Stone's other Assisted Living developments have been able to claim.

Each comprehensively-appointed apartment at Darwin Court is a complete home in itself yet is also part of a complex offering a waitress-service restaurant, a self-operated laundry, lifts, domestic help and a 24-hour personal emergency service - all covered by one affordable service charge. There is also a guest suite for visiting family and friends, which can be booked for a nominal charge.

A high level of security has been built in to Darwin Court, with pull-cords in each apartment, smoke and intruder alarms, and a TV security system at the main entrance, which can be accessed via the residents' own television sets.

The apartments have either one or two bedrooms, a lounge/dining area, a fully-equipped kitchen with appliances and fittings at a convenient height, a bathroom with bath and level access shower, and full wheelchair access.

Central to the development is an elegantly furnished owners' lounge where residents can meet and hold social events, while the buildings and gardens are cared for by a maintenance team.

A three course lunch is available at a nominal cost in the waitress-service restaurant and in the event of illness arrangements can be made for meals

to be brought to residents' apartments.

Paul Trofimov, Managing Director of McCarthy & Stone's Assisted Living division, said: "It is a major departure from the traditional 'rest home' approach where residents may end up feeling institutionalised and the family impoverished by the cost of fees.

"The advantages of Assisted Living are immediately obvious in an era when the majority of retired people are now owner-occupiers. We believe it is the housing of the future for a significant proportion of the older generation." With shops, public transport and other amenities well located, you won't have to rely on a car or on other people for the daily necessities of life. Where else could you find such a balance of independence and convenience under one roof? And it is all yours - for the rest of your life!

*Assuming a modest increase of 3% per annum in property prices.



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Come along to our Cheese and Wine Evening on Thursday 15th May between 4pm and 7pm, enjoy a glass of wine and a variety of cheeses and discover the benefits of Assisted Living for you or your loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you to Darwin Court.

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BIRTHS

BEDWELL

Zack Callum born on 22nd April 2008, weighing 8lb 7oz. Son to Dean and Catherine, brother to Kian Bedwell of Walderslade.

CHARLES

Toby Alfred William Charles born on 27th March 2008, weighing 7lb 2oz. Son to Edward Charles and Harriet Jacobs in Maidstone.

FIELD-CHAMBERS

Mason Lewis born on 4th April 2008, weighing 7lb 15oz. Son to Stephen and Claire in Margate. Welcome brother to Dena, Warren and Tye.

GILDER

Darren and Lorraine are proud to announce the safe arrival of Riley Jack Gilder. Born at Maidstone Hospital on 2nd May 2008 at 09:37 weighing 7lb 11oz.

GRATTAN

Catherine and Paul Grattan of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their daughter Katie Louise Grattan born on 26th April 2008, weighing 7lb 5oz.

HOLGATE

Lucy and James Holgate of Lenham celebrate the birth of their son Alfie John Holgate on 28th April 2008 weighing 7lb 14oz.

JACKSON

Reuben born on 22nd April 2008, weighing 6lb 13oz. Son to Laurence and Meg Jackson of Ramsgate.

JOLLIFFE

Michelle and Julian Jolliffe of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their daughter Chloe Hannah Jolliffe born on 26th April 2008, weighing 8lb 8oz.

KMITA

Grzegorz and Annarie are very happy to announce the arrival of their son Travis Ryszard a beautiful baby boy. Travis was born on the 27th April 2008 at 8.49 am and weighed 8lb 6oz. He is a lovely brother for John, James and Jed. Grzegorz and Annarie look forward to introducing Travis to all his family including all those in Poland.

MEDD

Henry and Louise Medd of Dunks Green are delighted to

announce the birth of their son Albert Henry Ben Medd born 28th April 2008 weighing 7lb 10oz.

NEWTON-CLARE CAMPORRO

Patrick Alexander born on 27th April 2008 weighing 8lb 4oz. Son to William and Marta.

RAI

Jazz Rai and Kelly Graham of Maidstone celebrate the birth of their son Jaden Singh Rai on 31st March 2008, weighing 9lb 2oz.

RYAN

Danny and Hayley are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Taylarie Harmony on 24th April 2008 weighing 7lb 15oz

SEAWARD

Brian and Jessica of St Nicholas at Wade celebrate the birth of their son Sam Robert Rhys on 15th April 2008.

SPARKS

Dave and Sarah are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their beautiful twins Jay John Sparks and Sam James Sparks. They were born on the 26th April 2008 at William Harvey Hospital. Jay arrived at 12.46 and weighed 5lb 10oz and Sam at 12.48 and he weighed 3lb 5oz. Both boys are doing well and Mum and Dad are looking forward to bringing them both home.

TOLLER

Holly and Justin of Margate celebrate the birth of their daughter Dolcie Jane on 28th April 2008, a sister for Ralph.

WALSH

Chris and Lucy proudly announce the birth of their second daughter Gemma "Mina" Krista Walsh born on 15 April 2008. A new sister for Millie.

WEAVILL

Aimee Trevelyan and Nathan Weavill of Ramsgate celebrate the birth of their son Harvey Jack on 21st April 2008.

WILSON

Ellese Bunny Wilson born on 17th April 2008, weighing 8lb 11oz. Daughter to Andrew Wilson and Amy-Jane McCann in Snodland.

WOODWARD

Jenny and Keith of Margate are delighted to announce the birth of their son James Matthew, born on 22 April 2008 at QEQM Hospital. Welcome little dragon!

DEATHS

COLLINS

Frances Teresa of Folkestone, passed away on 30th April 2008 at the William Harvey Hospital after a short illness. Funeral will take place on 13th May, 3.30 pm at Hawkinge Crematorium. She will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

COOPER

Beryl Doreen Cooper of Maidstone passed away on 3rd May 2008. Enquiries to Doves Funerals, Knightrider Street Maidstone.

GOULD

Adrian Gould of Woudham, formerly of Ipswich died peacefully after 5th years of illness on 5th May 2008, aged 58.

MALAURE

Doris of Ramsgate, formerly of Woodford Green Essex, passed away peacefully on 30th April 2008 aged 86 years. Mum and Dad are now together. They are well-loved and sadly missed.

MUNN

Norah Joyce Munn of Hythe passed away peacefully after a short illness on 5th May 2008 aged 92 years. Funeral service at Hawkinge Crematorium at 11.45am on 19th May.

POTTER

Ian James passed away suddenly at his home in Folkestone on 25th April 2008. Will be sadly missed by his wife Mandy and all his family and friends.

STEVENS

Stanley Stevens of Larkfield Maidstone passed away peacefully after a long illness on the 4th May 2008, aged 92. Gone and will be never forgotten.

WHITEWOOD

Stanley Howard Whitewood passed away on 5th May 2008 at the William Harvey Hospital aged 95.

IN MEMORIAM

KEMP

Patrick Frank Frederick Kemp of Whitstable passed away suddenly on 27th April 2008. Beloved husband of Joyce, loving father to Paul and Dawn, and much loved grandfather to Laura, Hannah, Megan and Katie. Lovingly remembered by Theresa and Mark. He will be very sadly missed by all who knew him. The funeral was held at St Johns Methodist Church, Whitstable on 9th April 2008.

estates and gamekeepers are to blame for the disappearance of birds of prey to the point of total eradication. What total and utter tripe.

One or two out of four or five thousand keepers have indeed been found persecuting birds of prey.

What the RSPB seems not to understand is that gamekeepers are the true custodians of the countryside with knowledge of wildlife and conservation that are second to none.

If we get a rare avian visitor to our shores, out come the bobble-hatted twitchers in their hundreds to line up six or seven deep with their telescopes to hound it to death.

These people, along with the ever-jovial Bill Oddie, do not have a full understanding of anything, let alone the countryside.

It is merely propaganda that is typical of biased media.

I recall Bill Oddie's Springwatch 06 that was filming – wait for it – on a shooting estate in Devon. That was the only place with such a diverse selection of wildlife.

That was conveniently ignored by the national media.

So our woods, fields and estates are looked after by a group of men and women called gamekeepers. And quite frankly the RSPB are not really fit to shine their boots.

Barry Luckhurst
Ashford

He then admits he made a mistake and instead of retaining the 10p band, says he will return the money in benefits, probably costing some £1.40 for every £1 returned.

Very sensible. And this from a man who's supposed to be financially astute.

The Labour rout in local/mayoral elections was of very damning indictment of both Gordon Brown and his ministers, although they were all quick to point out that after 11 years they really will listen to the electorate now.

With increasing world economic problems and the desperate mess they have made of this once great country, for Mr Brown to win the next election would be nothing short of a miracle.

Phil Granger
West Malling

Why do they fly here?

Is it possible for anybody out there to explain to me why Beltinge has so many aircrafts flying over people's houses heading for Manston and disturbing the peace and quiet of the village?

I always thought Manston airport was situated just off the coast line at Ramsgate.

Mr Williams
Beltinge

Survey is too biased

I find it difficult to believe that a publication of your standing could support such a one-sided and biased survey, as the Manston Airport Survey as publicised in last week's newspaper.

Having opened the survey on the web, I found there were only questions relating to the type of expansion readers would like to see. With no place to indicate whether or not the readers supported an expansion of air traffic.

Aircraft using the airport fly directly over Ramsgate town centre, and often at quite low level.

The current volume of air-traffic is just about acceptable, but any proposals for a significant increase, such as relieving the scheduled air traffic loads from Heathrow and Gatwick, could only lead to a campaign of protests from the residents of Ramsgate.

If allowed, it would destroy Ramsgate and considerably reduce the value of properties under the flight path.

Residents of Ramsgate should also be aware that once a significant increase of flights is allowed the next move would be to be for the airport to apply for night flights, further destroying the local environment.

Having supported this biased survey, how

about your paper now correcting the balance by holding a survey of Ramsgate residents regarding their support for increased air traffic over their town?

If there is to be an airport on the east of London, instead of a third runway at Heathrow, it should be on Maplin Sands and not at Manston.

Ken Hanney
Ramsgate

Other options needed

This corner of Kent has been subject to massive over-development during the last 15-20 years.

The latest proposals to inflict a recycling plant with an anaerobic digester on the borders of several villages, as well as a huge lorry park on the borders of the other villages are utter madness.

Covering the land in concrete, increasing light pollution, increasing heavy traffic, overall damage to the rural environment, where will it all end?

Yet again the diminishing bird population will dwindle further as they take flight to escape.

Other solutions must be investigated before these knee-jerk reactions by businesses, officials and councillors are sanctioned.

Patricia Richardson
Sellingdale

Site needs a rethink

We wish to add our objection to the proposal for a lorry park at the site in Aldington.

Whilst it is appreciated that an answer to Operation Stack must be sought, we do not feel this will be accomplished by the current proposal.

How anyone can say the proposed site is an isolated area is beyond belief. It is surrounded on all sides by villages, not to mention the fact there is an important electricity converter station in very close proximity as well as the associated pylons.

There is no entrance or exit onto the motorway in the proposed area and so this is something else that will need to be built and we all know what will happen then – other businesses will come along and want to build alongside this park and before you know it we will be joined up to Ashford.

Why was no thought given to this parking facility when the new services were built behind the Folkestone Racecourse? This site is much more isolated, there are facilities already there and it is right on top of the slip road onto the motorway.

What about Dover? Dover wanted to have

this lorry park in their area and Dover Harbour offered to pay for it.

We have now learned that in addition to the proposed space for 4,000 lorries there is going to be a large inspection area, thus making this eyesore even worse. It has also been reported by KCC that there will be a tarmac area for the 500 places intended for daily use and the rest of the area for the other 3,500 will be grassed.

Has anyone given any thought at all to what a ridiculous idea this is? What would happen with all the mud being churned by these huge lorries? This would cause dangerous conditions on the site and also on the surrounding roads.

We would like to know what will happen when about a year after this lorry park is open, it is found that it's not big enough? Because rest assured, it won't be. And what happens to the lorries that can't get into the park? We only have narrow lanes around here. Will Operation Stack still be put into force?

Operation Stack is a national problem and should be treated as such. Has any consideration been given to extending and encouraging the use of other ports around the country?

It should not be left for the residents of this small corner of Kent to shoulder the entire burden. The people of this area will have to suffer nuisance, danger, light pollution and noise to name but a few.

Let us not forget that many of these large lorries also have refrigeration units which have to be kept running 24 hours a day.

It should also be kept in mind that the values of many properties will be compromised. Will KCC be agreeable to bridging the gap in values and also lower the council tax or will we be expected to put our hands in our pockets again to pay for this monstrosity?

We believe the idea for this lorry park in this particular area is being seen as an easy option. We think it is a 'knee-jerk' reaction to the recent difficulties and as everyone knows, this kind of reaction tends to turn out to be very wrong.

Please rethink this and come up with a sensible solution for all our sakes. Don't ruin this area any more than it already has been with the high-speed rail link.

We would just like to add that we recently attended a meeting at Brabourne Village Hall and thought it was disgraceful the representative of KCC failed to turn up. He gave no excuse or apology, nor did he see fit to send anybody in his place.

When such an important issue as this was being discussed how disgusting not to have an appropriate representative present.

Janet and David Cave
Ashford

Results mean nothing

Getting the local election results into perspective.

On local election night 2004 in the Assembly Hall at Tunbridge Wells a prominent Conservative councillor confidently assured me that on the basis of those results the Conservatives would win the general election.

We now know that less than a year later Labour won a third term of office with a large majority.

David Burgess
Hawkhurst

Boring Brown's done

Stephen Ladyman, Labour MP for South Thanet, likens Gordon Brown to, "the Steven Gerrard of politics".

I think the experience of most of us, is that Mr Brown is more like Sven 'boring' Eriksson, foreign, overpaid, lacklustre and not fit for purpose.

For Mr Brown to claim he didn't realise that abolishing the 10p tax band would take money from the most poor, suggests only one of two things – either he is incompetent or is being disingenuous.



images of Kent

EILEEN Wiggins took this photograph of a rainbow over the Port of Dover with a camera her daughter in law had bought from eBay for just 99p.

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Heart upgrade for professionals

A TRAINING programme aimed at health professionals who want to enhance their knowledge and skills in cardiology has been launched by a Kent university.

The one year masters degree is available at Canterbury Christ Church University's Medway Campus.

Professor Michael Henein, the programme director, said: "The MSc Cardiology programme will encourage students to engage in critical thinking, evaluate current professional issues and embrace the rationale of national and international guidelines for managing various cardiac diseases."

The full-time course will focus on heart illnesses including coronary artery disease, valvular heart disease, heart failure and the cardiomyopathies, as well as the impact of diet and lifestyle on the organ.

A team of academic experts and consultant cardiologists will lead the programme.

Rebuilding the past

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

A SERIOUS shortage of skilled workers is placing the future of Kent's heritage buildings in danger, a new report has revealed.

The National Heritage Training Group (NHTG) found that few craftspeople possessed the specialist knowledge needed to work on pre-1919 buildings across the country.

The Traditional Building Craft Skills in England report was backed by ConstructionSkills and English Heritage.

Peter Lobban, chief executive of ConstructionSkills, which is responsible for tackling the skills and productivity needs of the construction industry, said: "We've taken some giant steps to ensure that more people are taking up these traditional building crafts that are so important to preserving the country's heritage buildings."

"But there is more work to do. Many of the people undertaking work on pre-1919 buildings need 'upskilling' to guarantee that tasks are completed to the highest possible standard so the South East's iconic and more humble buildings are not spoilt."

"To address this issue we have decided a variety of flexible on-site training schemes and new heritage qualifications."

He said the South East has more than 75,000 listed buildings and two of England's World Heritage Sites, one of which is Canterbury Cathedral.

The report found that 51 per cent of contractors in the South East were having problems finding workers with traditional skills.

Plasters and joiners were the hardest trades to recruit, it said.

The NHTG said it will be investing £1 million to help reduce the skills gap.

Mike Moody, the group's chairman, said: "As an employer in this sector, I know too well the



VITAL: Gareth Daw has retrained as a craftsman with the help of a bursary

value and importance of retaining a skilled workforce. This is essential if we are to maintain the highest possible standards of workmanship, as well as remaining commercially successful."

NHTG said it planned to make Heritage Skills NVQs and Heritage Apprenticeship Programmes available in Kent. A training programme is already running alongside work being carried out at Canterbury Cathedral, where a huge restoration project expected to cost £50 million is underway.

Andy Brown, regional director of English

New skills

A FORMER civil servant from Dover has ditched his desk job and retrained as a historical craftsman.

Gareth Daw was awarded funding under the Traditional Building Skills Bursary Scheme and has worked on brick replacement and conservation at sites in London, Kent and Sussex.

The 45-year-old, who used to work for the Department of Work and Pensions, said: "I've always been interested in heritage and archaeology, and I decided to do a degree in heritage conservation."

"Working in the built heritage sector is a great occupation but not enough people realise that there are opportunities out there."

"The scheme will help people like me gain experience in the sector so we can develop our skills and help preserve our fantastic built heritage."

The scheme is aimed at both workers already in the main construction industry and career changers like Mr Daw.

Carpentry and joinery, fibrous plaster, lime plaster, stone masonry and conservation, leadwork and blacksmithing, are the main skills the scheme is backing.

Go to www.buildingbursaries.org.uk.

Heritage, added: "We may be reversing a trend but clearly there is still lots to do to make sure the quality of work is maintained."

"These skills issues affect not just listed buildings, but the whole swathe of undesignated and locally important heritage and conservation areas that form an integral part of the historic environment."

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Port Lympne, Nr Hythe, Kent. CT21 4PD. Or e-mail personnel@howletts.net

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Closing Date for Applications 15 May 2008

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You will need to have experience of working with children and young people with disabilities, knowledge and understanding of the issues facing disabled children and young people, and the ability to engage with young people using participative methods in an informal setting. Reliability and punctuality are a critical element of this role. You will be educated to GCSE standard (or equivalent). Hours for these posts will be variable and appointment is subject to an enhanced CRB disclosure.

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For an informal discussion about this role, please contact Donna Ramm on 01843 596659.

For information on how to apply, please visit **www.playyourpart.co.uk** in the first instance, alternatively call us on 0121 362 8633 quoting reference number S0103/KOS. Applications must be received by midday on Thursday 22 May 2008, with interviews expected to take place during week commencing 26 May 2008.

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Previous experience of bar work and/or silver service waiting gained in a similar environment is preferred but not essential as full training will be provided.

Hours are casual, on an as needs basis and will include weekends and evenings.

Must be available for an immediate start.

Interested?

To apply, send a CV and covering letter (stating the position applied for) to: Human Resources department, Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, Port Lympne, Nr Hythe, Kent. CT21 4PD. Or e-mail personnel@howletts.net
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You must be numerate, articulate, computer literate, and have organisational and communication skills, and it would be desirable to be able to demonstrate a familiarity with GIS and/or conventional maps. Education to GCSE Grade C or above, or equivalent, in English and Mathematics is essential.

Previous experience in a technical/administrative support role to Planning Officers would be an advantage. The postholders will be part of a team, which is responsible for the maintenance of some planning data on the Council's Geographical Information System (GIS).

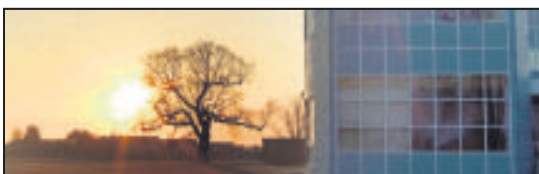
You need to be able to work under pressure and to deadlines whilst still maintaining a high level of accuracy. You must also be patient, tactful and tolerant and work both on your own initiative and as a part of a small team.

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For further information contact Human Resources, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT. Telephone (01795) 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting 609DS1.

E-Mail: hr@swale.gov.uk Website: <http://jobs.swale.gov.uk>

Closing date: 19 May 2008
Interviews: w/c 26 May 2008



We are changing - Are you?

As a Building Schools for the Future school we are undergoing a significant new build project commencing the summer of 2008. Our school facilities will be enhanced to allow us to offer exciting opportunities in all areas of the curriculum – be it science, sport or humanities.

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In the context of the Government's agenda of rolling out children's centres to cover the country, Kent County Council is seeking to appoint 1 full-time equivalent qualified early years teacher to work in support of children's centres. These exciting opportunities will involve working alongside early education and childcare providers in all sectors to promote and support the highest quality care and learning opportunities for children from birth to five.

Kent currently has 20 Children's Centres throughout the county - with plans to increase this to 72 by 2008. Each centre serves approximately 800 children, offering a range of multi-agency services, with a qualified teacher contributing to the strategic development and direction.

You will be outstanding and experienced practitioners, possessing excellent interpersonal and communication skills as these will be crucial to achievement in this significantly multi-agency, cross sector environment.

Kent is seeking to appoint candidates on a part-time basis to work in one centre, or alternatively on a full-time basis to work across two centres. Ref: CFE/08/0172.

If you would like further information about these exciting posts please contact in the first instance Dion Darley on 01622 626761 or email dion.darley@kent.gov.uk

Closing date: Midday, 22 May 2008.

Interviews to be held week commencing 16 June 2008.

Education Welfare Officer

Starting salary £20,061, with progression through

Contribution Related Pay to £22,825 pro rata

0.6 Full-time Equivalent (3 days per week)

Kroner House, Ashford

(Shepway 1 Cluster Based Service)

We are currently looking for a person to join our team. Education Welfare Officers work with schools, families and pupils to promote regular school attendance. The work is challenging and requires ability to work independently as well as being a good team member. You will receive in service training, regular supervision, and team support in your work with schools, pupils, their families and other agencies.

The ability to travel is essential as visiting schools and homes etc is essential to the work. Ref: CFE/08/0184.

For further information about the post, please contact Debbie Spice, District & Court Co-ordinator, Attendance & Behaviour Service on 01233 898673.

Closing date: Midday, 15 May 2008.

Joy Lane Children's Centre, Whitstable

We are seeking to recruit an administrator and a receptionist to work in our new Children's Centre in Whitstable.

Children's Centre Administrator

Starting salary £15,826, with progression through

Contribution Related Pay to £16,627 per annum pro rata 1 x part-time post

You will need to be a well-organised person, able to be sensitive to the needs of children and their families. The role will include creating and maintaining filing systems, day-to-day administrative support and maintaining financial records, stationery ordering and the processing of incoming and outgoing mail.

You should be educated GCSE, or equivalent English and Mathematics and have some general office experience. Having good IT skills and being a good team worker are essential. Ref: CFE/08/0182.

Children's Centre Receptionist

Starting salary £13,959, with progression through

Contribution Related Pay to £15,826 per annum

You will need to have an open, friendly, welcoming nature with a tactful and flexible approach. To be the first point of contact for all visitors, dealing with all enquiries and visitors in a courteous and welcoming manner, ensuring all visitors are shown in an appropriate manner to their destination within the centre.

The role will include processing information received by mail, telephone or email, managing room bookings, meeting and greeting parents and visitors and ensuring the reception area of the children's centre is pleasant and welcoming to the visitors of the children's centre.

You should have a confident telephone manner, good IT skills and some general receptionist or office duties experience. Enjoying working with parents, children and young people is essential. Ref: CFE/08/0183.

For general information about the posts please contact Dion Darley on 01622 626761. For detailed information about the posts please contact Helen Jones on 01227 284513.

Closing date: Midday, 19 May 2008.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs

Alternatively, please email recruitment.line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904.

Please quote the appropriate reference.



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so neither are our people.

www.kent.gov.uk/jobs



Ifield Special School, Cedar Avenue,
Gravesend, Kent DA12 5JT
Telephone: 01474 365485

COMPUTER, HARDWARE & SOFTWARE TECHNICIAN

37 hpw, 42 weeks per annum (negotiable)

Kent Scheme Grade 6: Points 17 (£18,288 p.a.) to 20 (£20,061 p.a.) pro-rata.

We have a vacancy for a Computer, Hardware and Software Technician from June 2008. The successful candidate will be responsible for supporting all IT facilities within the main school and at Ifield Smile, our training and resource centre.

Responsibilities will include network management, maintaining both hardware and software, overseeing the internet connection and the school websites and supporting staff in the use of ICT throughout the school. The successful candidate will require expertise in the use of DOS, Windows and an up to date knowledge of the computer market and current developments. Previous experience in an educational establishment would be useful but is not essential.

For a job description and application form please contact the headteacher, Mrs Pam Jones.

Telephone: 01474 365485

Web: www.ifieldschool.co.uk E-mail: ifieldschool@aol.com

Closing date: Friday 16th May.

Appointment to this position will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check.



REQUIRED

CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS

Kent Scheme 6 Point 17 - £9.48 per hour

We are seeking a confident individual to provide clerical support to our school's governing body. You will need good listening, literacy, communication and organisational skills.

You will be working from home and school in order to prepare and clerk for a minimum of 22 meetings per year. Hours per week rising from a minimum of two hours to 12/15 during busy periods; therefore you will need to be very flexible. Meetings tend to take place in the late afternoon though occasionally meetings take place during the school day.

Your duties will include arranging meetings, agendas and taking minutes. You will be responsible for keeping mandatory records up to date, receiving and circulating correspondence plus other administrative duties.

For further information and an application form please contact:

Miss Samantha Spratley, Pent Valley Technology College

Surrenden Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 4ED

Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk

Tel: 01303 277161 Fax: 01303 279342

Closing date: Friday 23rd May 2008

Interviews: Thursday 29th May 2008



Bredlands Lane
Sturry, Canterbury
Kent CT2 0HD

NOR: 300

Principal: Ian Johnson

Twin Specialisms: Business & Enterprise and
Visual, Creative & Performing Arts

Clerk to the Governors

Salary circa £24,000 pa

Full Time - All Year Round

(some flexibility for the right candidate)

Spires Academy opened in September 2007 to transform the life chances of students and people in the local community. Spires Academy has close links with The Marlowe Academy and Folkestone Academy.

We are seeking to appoint a full time Clerk to the Governors of three Academies - Spires Academy, The Marlowe Academy and Folkestone Academy - initially based at Spires Academy. The successful candidate will undertake an advisory role to the three Academies, call and clerk meetings as required including Governors; disciplinary; exclusions and appeal meetings.

We hope that the successful candidate will be available to start from the 1st July 2008.

Prospective candidates will have experience of working within a local school and/or local authority with knowledge of the legalities of school governance. They will be well used to working with a variety of different organisations and agencies.

We are looking for a colleague with extensive experience. Proven administrative and time management skills are essential; we also need someone who has demonstrated the ability to work independently. Flexibility and mobility are key factors of this challenging role.

This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

To request an information pack please contact Marion Wigington quoting ref 05/01 by email at: m.wigington@spiresacademy.com

Closing date: 16th May 2008 at noon

Interview date: 27th May 2008

www.spiresacademy.com

Teachers Urgently Required

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For regular supply work or a choice of long term and permanent work, register with Teaching Personnel TODAY!

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- ✓ An out-of-hours service

Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on: 0800 731 6871 or e-mail jean.read@capita.co.uk

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EDUCATION RESOURCING
(Agi)



Committed to equal opportunities



The Towers School

Faversham Road
Kennington
Ashford
Kent TN24 9AL
Tel: 01233 634171
Fax: 01233 628326
Email: admin@towers.kent.sch.uk

Two Part-Time Site Attendants Working On A Shift Pattern

We are looking to appoint two part time Site Attendants to help with the day to day running of the school and weekend and evening lettings

Pay will be on the Kent Scheme Band 3 (£13,959-£15,826, pro-rata)

The successful candidates will be subject to a full police check

Applications are by CV and covering letter and can be by fax, by email or by post. Please mark for the attention of Mrs K Weedon, detailing your experience, skills, qualities and ambitions. Closing date is Wednesday, 28th May 2008

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100s of Kent jobs updated daily online from Kent's leading companies, from all sectors of industry



View the latest vacancies with new Jobs posted daily, read full job descriptions and apply online.
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Key Stage 2 Teacher

Employment Type: Full time
Pay: Main Pay Spine

Key Stage 2 Teacher required for Summer Term 2008

We require an experienced Key Stage 2 Teacher to join our team. A teaching and learning responsibility point is available to the right candidate, who would take on a core curriculum subject. He/she would join us in September 2008, to teach a lower Key Stage 2 class. The successful candidate will be an accomplished teacher with experience across Key Stage 2. He or she would possess the ability to lead a small team of teaching assistants to enable us to continue to achieve high standards throughout Key Stage 2.

A willingness to undertake management tasks in other areas of school life, eg after school activities, is essential. The individual will lead a key area of the curriculum for the school, for which non-contact management time is provided.

We are a "good" school (OFSTED July 2007) with an acknowledged capacity to become even better.

We encourage candidates to visit the school and meet our friendly staff and pupils. For an information pack or to visit the school, please contact Mrs E Steele, PA to the Headteacher on 01233 620044 or e mail school@victoria-road.kent.sch.uk

Application Close Date: 16th May 2008
Date of Interview: 22nd May 2008
Position Start Date: September 2008

achievement employability experience development



Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Director of Higher Education and International Provision Post Ref: DHEIP
37 hours per week, salary circa £55,000
(Closing date: Friday 23 May 2008 at 12 noon. Interview date: 5 June 2008.)

Lecturer Brickwork Post Ref: L16
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Lecturer Basic Skills for Construction Students Post Ref: 08/68
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Lecturer Public Services Post Ref: 06/92
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

HR Manager Post Ref: 05/75
37 hours per week, salary circa £45,000

Assessor - Motor Vehicle/Motor Sport Post Ref: 08/70
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,727 - £25,418 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator - Plumbing Post Ref: 08/69
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator - Motor Vehicle/Motor Sport Post Ref: 08/67
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 per annum

Trainer Demonstrator - Sport, Leisure, Travel & Tourism Post Ref: 04/106
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Senior Nursery Officer - Education and Curriculum Post Ref: 08/71
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Nursery Assistant Post Ref: 05/82
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £11,269 per annum

Applications Technician - Advanced Post Ref: ATA
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Supply NVQ Assessors required in the following areas:
Various hours available, salary range £17,727 - £25,418 pro rata per annum

Early Years Post Ref: NVQ/EY
Play work Post Ref: NVQ/PW

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts Tuesday 27 May 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Close to City Centre
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

achievement employability experience development



Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Lecturer Construction - Trowel Occupations and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/72
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills Post Ref: 08/73
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Senior Learning Resources Officer Post Ref: S3
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Academic Support Assistant Post Ref: 08/74
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts Tuesday 27 May 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

Thanet is a beautiful place to work

Thanet is a great place to live and work. Our historic seaside towns of Ramsgate, Margate and Broadstairs are rich in heritage and opportunity. From the multi-million pound Turner Contemporary Gallery, the planned fast speed rail link to London, and the popular Westwood Cross shopping centre - this is an exciting time to join Thanet District Council. We are determined to improve the quality of life for local people. We believe that by listening to local people, working in active partnership and by being prepared to do things in an innovative way we can accelerate improvement and best meet the challenges ahead.

Thanet's Democratic Services team manages committee and electoral services. It is currently running several key projects, including the imminent replacement of the Council's committee document management system, updating the constitution and improving the management of the decision-making process. A recent review has resulted in the decision to fill a vacant post and recruit a new manager within the team.

Committee Services Manager

£29,307 - £34,320 per annum

Under the guidance of the Democratic Services Manager, this new post will be responsible for managing a small team of officers providing committee services and implementing the above projects. Applicants need to be educated to degree-level (or equivalent), and have considerable experience of committee services, including management experience.

Democratic (or Senior Democratic) Services Officer

£16,590 to £27,321 per annum

This is a vacancy in a career graded post (salary on appointment is dependent upon qualifications and experience). Located within the committee side of the team, applicants should have experience of committee administration and be willing to contribute towards electoral services when needed.

For an informal discussion about this post, please contact Glenn Back, Democratic Services Manager, on 01843 577187

Closing Date: Friday, 23 May 2008

Interview Date: Tuesday, 10 or Thursday, 12 June 2008

All posts include generous annual leave, flexible working, a 37-hour week, subsidised bus pass, as well as access to the local government final salary pension scheme.

For an application form and job description for this position, please contact the Human Resources Department on (01843) 577175 (24 hours), e-mail personnel@thanet.gov.uk or, download an application form from www.thanet.gov.uk/jobs.

Thanet District Council is an equal opportunities employer committed to employing people with disabilities. Any disabled applicant who meets the minimum criteria for the posts will be guaranteed an interview

Ashford Christ Church

A Church of England Maths and Computing Specialist College
Headteacher: Catherine Barber
Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG

Assistant Social Worker

Required to work at Ashford Christ Church to start as soon as possible.
20 hours per week, 39 weeks per year K56.

Candidates need to be experienced at working with vulnerable children and families.
Must work well in a team and have knowledge of an educational environment.
Knowledge of the South Ashford area would be an advantage.
Experience in social work and/or qualifications essential.

We require a personable, happy, reliable person who engages well with children and teenagers in a professional and caring way.

Ashford Christ Church is proud to have had its IIP award renewed.

Closing date: 21st May 2008.

For an application form and further information please contact
the HR Officer Samantha Sullivan at
Email: samanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com
Telephone: 01233 652 613 or 01233 623 465 Fax 01233 636 861
Or visit our website: www.ashfordchristchurch.com

Ashford Christ Church is an Equal Opportunities Employer.



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Ashford Christ Church

A Church of England Maths and Computing Specialist College
Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG
Headteacher: Catherine Barber

Awarded Beacon Status for Mathematics, Training School and
Maths & Computing Specialist Schools Status

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Not sure of where you're going but you have always
loved, believed in, valued your education?

Isn't it time you put something back?

What has education done for you?

We have vacancies to join the Graduate Teacher
Programme from September 2008.

Ashford Christ Church is an all inclusive Church of England Community School,
offering the opportunity to young at heart, bright, well-motivated students
with degrees to Train to Teach.

Get in touch with us, don't delay and walk away!

Take the challenge and believe in yourself.

"Those who can, teach!"

For an application form and further information contact:

Email: samanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com

Telephone: 01233 652613 or 01233 623465

Fax: 01233 636861



the University of Greenwich at Medway

PART TIME SYSTEMS DEVELOPER (FIXED TERM)

Ref: 00965/K3

Working as part of a multi-disciplined friendly team, the Natural Resources
Institute (NRI) wishes to recruit a highly motivated individual to provide
IT support.

You will support the Systems Development Manager in the development
and maintenance of NRI's Business and Marketing Systems, including
assisting in related development and training. Experienced in SQL
database development, you will develop new modules and enhance the
existing systems using UNIX scripts, perl, PHP and MySQL. You will
perform basic operations procedures to ensure the effective and secure
operation of NRI's UNIX servers.

With experience of modern web design, you will help to develop and
maintain NRI's website to professional standards and provide support to
staff in the development of discrete project-related websites.

This post is fixed term for one year and the hours of work are 17.5 per week.

Salary pro-rata to £23,002 - £27,486 per annum

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications
from all sections of the community.

To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website
www.gre.ac.uk, email: jobs@gre.ac.uk or
write to the Personnel Office, University
of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road,
London, SE9 2UG quoting the job
reference. Applications should be
returned by 5:00 pm on 23 May 2008.



Gravesham
Borough Council



Communities Customer and Theatre Services

Duty Manager

Salary: Circa £21,000 to £23,000

An exciting opportunity has arisen for a Duty Manager with responsibility for ensuring
the smooth running of shows, events, functions and meetings within the Woodville
Halls and Civic Centre to join our dedicated team.

Acting as the main contact point, you will be responsible for ensuring the welcome,
health and safety and comfort of visitors; ensuring all issues, comments or complaints
are dealt with and that the relevant functions/events are delivered to the highest
standards. Areas of responsibility will include overseeing the box office, bar and
catering functions, technical teams, caretakers and Commissionaires.

The successful applicant will have experience of organising events and supervising
teams, have excellent communication skills and proven history of dealing with
customers in a busy, customer focused environment. Motivation, organisation
and an excellent team player are essential skills.

This post requires regular unsocial hours working during evening and weekends
and is subject to an enhanced criminal records bureau check. Ref: DM/AT

Closing date: 23 May 2008

Housing and Environment Building Maintenance

Plumber

Salary: £328.81 per week plus productivity payment

We are seeking an enthusiastic and flexible team player to join the Building Maintenance
Team at the Brookvale depot in Northfleet. Applications are sought from qualified
plumbers (gas CORGI training would be an advantage). You will have good communication
skills and the ability to manage your own time.

You will carry out repairs and inspections as and when required on Gravesham Borough
Council's Housing Stock.

A clean current driving license is essential and you must be prepared to take part
in our out of hours service. Ref: PL/MC

Closing date: 23 May 2008

Housing and Environment Housing

Assistant Caretaker x 4 posts

Salary: £6.17 per hour

We are looking to recruit full time non-residential Assistant Caretakers to assist in
general caretaking duties. In order to provide a good level of service to our residents,
you will need to have experience in cleaning or caretaking and have a sound knowledge
of minor maintenance.

An awareness of customer care is needed so previous experience of working with the
public would be advantageous.

The position is subject to successful CRB clearance. A clean current driving license is
essential. Ref: AC/WA

Closing date: 23 May 2008

For an application form and job description please contact:
Customer Services, Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre,
Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU.

Telephone: 01474 33 70 00

Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk

Gravesham Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities
and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.
The Council also operates a no smoking policy.



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Ensuring the best possible policing service across Kent and Medway

£8,000 – part time from October 2008

Kent Police Authority is an independent body that oversees Kent Police. We're looking for people from across Kent and Medway to join as Independent Members. You will play a key role in holding Kent Police to account on behalf of the public.

- You will be expected to attend all Authority meetings and challenge and question senior Kent Police officers and staff. You will attend appropriate designated committees and participate in public consultation on local policing issues.
- You will be expected to keep abreast of developments in both local and national policing. You will be required to present a broad range of local communities and constructively challenge accepted views.
- Good communication skills are essential as some public speaking will be required and you will be representing the Authority in discussions with interested parties. You should be able to demonstrate relevant skills, experience and knowledge, for example in management, business, finance, strategic IT and community or race-relations.

A commitment of up to two days per week is required, for which an allowance and expenses are payable. This post will last until March 2013. You need to be over 18, live or work within Kent and Medway (and have done so for at least a year prior to appointment) and not be otherwise disqualified.

Kent Police Authority welcomes applications from all eligible people from all backgrounds.

For more detailed information and an application pack call 01622 677 055 or email memberappointments@kent.pnn.police.uk Closing date is 9 June 2008.



JobsforKent.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Academic Support Assistant

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: from £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008
18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/74 Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS

Folkestone
Salary: Kent Scheme 6 Point 17 £9.40 per hour
Closing Date: 23rd May 2008
To apply/more information: Miss Samantha Spratley
Pent Vally Tech
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: Tel: 01303 277161
Email: samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk

DATA INPUT CLERKS

Canterbury
Salary: £13,500
You will need to have experience in using computers, be accurate and enthusiastic and be able to work as part of a team. A good telephone manner is essential for this position. Full training will be given and the minimum starting salary is £13,500 for full time employees.
To apply/more information: Michelle FLS Tenant Referencing Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 250028
Email: michelle@tenantref.co.uk

GENERAL OFFICE STAFF

Canterbury
Salary: £13,500
You will need to have experience in using computers, be accurate and enthusiastic and be able to work as part of a team. A good telephone manner is essential for this position. Full training will be given and the minimum starting salary is £13,500 for full time employees.
To apply/more information: Michelle FLS Tenant Referencing Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 250028
Email: michelle@tenantref.co.uk

MEDICAL SECRETARY

Margate
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 15 May 2008
Part-time (30hrs) increasing to full time in October We are looking for an enthusiastic, highly motivated person who has a flexible approach to work to join our team. Experience of working in a medical environment and a medical secretarial qualification would be beneficial.
To apply/more information: Spencer Wing (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 234556
Email: mandy@thespencerwing.com

SEASONAL OFFICE ASSISTANT

Hythe
Salary: tba
To apply/more information: Helen Dallimore-Jones
Howletts Wild Animal Park
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email: personnel@howletts.net

Catering, Hospitality

Bar and Silver Service Waiting Staff

Hythe
Salary: tba
Closing Date: Friday 16th May 2008
To apply/more information: Howletts Wild Animal Park

Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email: personnel@howletts.net

Chef de partie, sous chef, kitchen porters

Ramsgate
Salary: tba
Chef de partie, sous chef, kitchen porters wanted for new restaurant in Ramsgate.
To apply/more information: Age & Sons
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07919 124 985
Email: harrietleigh@gmail.com

Child Care

Sessional Support Workers for school holiday and Saturday club

Ashford
Salary: £9.13 - £9.56 per hour
Closing Date: 22 May 2008
To apply/more information: Childrens Society
Quoting Job Ref: S01103/KOS.
Tel: 0121 362 8633
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Customer Service, Call Centre

Customer Service Assistants

Rochester
Salary: Hourly rate of pay £5.85
These positions are available on a full time and part time basis. Full Time hours 08:00 to 16:30 Monday to Friday Part Time hours 08:00 to 14:00 Mon to Friday Hourly rate of pay £5.85
You will be required to provide a professional and efficient customer service function. If you are interested in applying please forward your C.V. to: hr.recruitment@dawson.co.uk
To apply/more information: Dawsons News
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email: hr.recruitment@dawson.co.uk

Customer Service Person

Dartford
Salary: TBA
Customer service person required for small marine support company. Please apply to: Box 124, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR.
To apply/more information: Undisclosed
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email: accounts@kosmedia.co.uk

Domestic

Assistant Caretaker x 4 posts

Chatham
Salary: £6.17 per hour
Closing Date: 23 May 2008
To apply/more information: Medway Council
Quoting Job Ref: AC/WA
Tel: 01474 33 7000
Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Mobile Office/Public Convenience Cleaners x3

Sevenoaks
Salary: £15,027 p.a. to £18,316 p.a. rising to £19,442 p.a.
Closing Date: Tuesday 6th May 2008
To apply/more information: the Human Resources Team
Sevenoaks District Council
Quoting Job Ref: CS.911
Tel: 01732 227102 (24 hours)
Email: recruitment@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Site Attendants

Ashford
Salary: Kent Scheme Band 3 (£13,959 - £15,826, pro-rata)
Closing Date: Wednesday 28th May 2008
We are looking to appoint two part-time Site Attendants working on a shift pattern to help with the day to day running of the school and weekend and evening lettings The successful

candidates will be subject to a full police check. Applications are by CV and covering letter and can be by fax, by email or by post. Please mark for the attention of Mrs K Weeden, detailing your experience, skills, qualities and ambitions.

To apply/more information: Mrs K Weeden
Towers School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email: admin@towers.kent.sch.uk

Education, Teacher, School

14-19 Co-ordinator

Aylesford
Salary: L10 - 14 pro rata
Closing Date: 16th May 2008
The post will suit a consultant who is able to offer 60 days per academic year on a flexible basis or equivalent part-time appointment, Salary Range: L10 - 14 pro-rata. Required for September 2008 (for 1 year in the first instance) Medway Valley is a Consortium comprising of Aylesford School - Sports College, Malling Holmesdale Federation and Wrotham School. We currently collaborate on post 16 provision. We are now seeking to appoint an enthusiastic, experienced and suitably qualified person to develop the 14-19 curriculum across the schools. You will: • Have a commitment to improving learning opportunities for young people; • Have considerable teaching experience preferably at a senior level; • Be up to date with developments in the 14 - 19 reform programme. The schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The post is subject to an enhanced CRB check. An information pack is available from Aylesford School - Sports College, Teapot Lane, Aylesford, Kent. ME20 7JU. telephone 01622 717341 or email the Headteacher's PA, Jill McKenna jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information: Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email: jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Applications Technician

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £20,775 per annum
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post ATA
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Assessor - Motor Vehicle/Motor Sport

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,727-£25,418 per annum
Closing Date: 27 May 2008
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/70
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Co-ordinator Mathematics

Canterbury
Salary: from £26,365 per annum
37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/61
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Co-ordinator Public Services

Canterbury
Salary: from £26,365 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post C046
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Curriculum Support Assistant within the Faculty of ICT, Retail and Commercial, Leisure and Tourism, Business and Law

Canterbury
Salary: £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week, 38 weeks per year term time. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/66
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Director of Higher Education and International Provision

Canterbury
Salary: salary circa £55,000
Closing Date: 23 May 2008
37 hours per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post DHEIP
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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Full Time Teacher required

Margate
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 8th May 2008.
Due to promotion we are seeking an enthusiastic classroom practitioner with experience at Foundation Stage TLR available to the right candidate. Visits welcomed. For detailed description, online application and contact details please go to www.kent-teach.com.
To apply/more information: Greenfields Community Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 758538
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Graduate Teacher Programme - Maths/Science/ICT

Aylesford
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 23rd May 2008
Aylesford School - Sports College Teapot Lane, Aylesford, Kent. ME20 7JU Tel: 01622 717341, Fax: 01622 790580
E-mail: jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk ROLL 860
11 - 18 Mixed Foundation Secondary School The School is at an exciting time in its growth, and has moved into its brand new state-of-the-art buildings with purpose-built facilities for all subject areas. We are seeking to appoint suitable candidates to undertake teacher training via the Graduate

Teacher Programme. The staff at the School are dedicated, innovative and progressive, together with being supportive of each other at all levels. The School is pro-active in encouraging personal development and career progression. To request an information pack and application form, please contact Jill McKenna on (01622) 717341 ext 204. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Check via the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information: Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email: jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Handyperson

Ramsgate
Salary: min £7.50 per hour depending on experience
Closing Date: 24th May 2008
Handyperson, someone experienced in DIY, to work from now to the end of September to help with small building works and office moves.
To apply/more information: Lesley Game
Churchill House School of English
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 593630
Email: lesley@churchillhouse.co.uk

Host Teaching Families

Herne Bay
Salary: tba
CAN YOU TEACH AND ACCOMMODATE A FOREIGN STUDENT IN YOUR HOME? We are looking for friendly and articulate host teaching families for June onwards. Excellent fee structure, resources & support.
To apply/more information: Channel English Studies
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: (01227) 375394
Email: channelenglish@btconnect.com

HR Manager

Canterbury
Salary: salary circa £45,000
Closing Date: 27 May 2008
37 hours per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 05/75
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Key Stage 2 Teacher

Ashford
Salary: Main Pay Spineth
Closing Date: 6th May 2008
To apply/more information: Mrs E Steele,
Victoria Road Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 620044
Email: e-mail.school@victoria-road.kent.sch.uk

Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008
18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/73
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/73
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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Lecturer Administration to Level 3 and Cross College Key Skills

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008
18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/73
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based Studies

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week. Fixed-term post for one year. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/44
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based Studies

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 3 x 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/41, 08/42 & 08/43
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Basic Skills for Construction Students

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: 27 May 2008 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/68
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Brickwork

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: 27 May 2008 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post L16
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Construction Trowel Occupations and Key Skills

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008 18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/72
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Corporate ICT

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 2 x 9.25 hrs per week. Fixed-term post for two years.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College

Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/64 & 08/65
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Early Years

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/40
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Early Years

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 06/138
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer HE Graphic Design

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/62
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer HE Health and Social Care

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/63
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Health and Social Care

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 07/81
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Business

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/45
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Computer Games and Interactive Media

Canterbury

Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/54
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Forensic Science

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 7.4 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/59
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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Lecturer in French

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 14.8 hrs per week. Fixed-term post for one year. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/57
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Graphic Design/Digital Photography

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/56
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Hospitality and Catering

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/47
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Journalism

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/55
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Media Theory

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/53
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Performing Arts - Theatre Production Arts

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/49
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Performing Arts and Dance Techniques

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/48
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Psychology

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/58
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Science

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/60
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Key Skills in ICT and Application of Number within Dance and Dramatic Arts

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/50
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Key Skills within Early Years and Public Services

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/39
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Public Services

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 27.75 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/38
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Public Services

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: 27 May 2008 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 06/92
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Network Manager

Aylesford
Salary: KS7 £20,061 - £22,825
Closing Date: 16/05/2008
Aylesford School - Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you: A brand new school. Outstanding new facilities in all areas. A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We seek to appoint a well qualified, highly skilled, confident and articulate team player. This post offers an opportunity to play a major role in the strategic management of our ICT networks and the management of ICT systems to meet the changing needs of the School. It would be preferable for the applicant to have knowledge of using SIMS and website maintenance construction. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Subject Lead Learner - ICT

Aylesford
Salary: MPS + TLR2b
Closing Date: 16th May 2008
Subject Lead Learner - ICT (Subject teachers with development potential, would be strongly considered). TLR 2B (£3844). Aylesford School - Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you: A brand new school. Outstanding new facilities in all areas. NOT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. Your own laptop. A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who is able to start in September. Can motivate pupils through the curriculum. Has the desire to make the difference. Is focussed on developing their career further. Is able to teach ICT at key stage 3 and 4. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Nursery Assistant

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £11,269 per annum

Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 05/82
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Publications and Design Officer

Canterbury
Salary: £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/25
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Recruitment Officer

Canterbury
Salary: £16,364 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 37 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post R02
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Senior Learning Resources Officer

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post S3
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Senior Nursery Officer - Education and Curriculum

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 May 2008 18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/71
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Subject Lead Learner - ICT

Aylesford
Salary: MPS + TLR2b
Closing Date: 16th May 2008
Subject Lead Learner - ICT (Subject teachers with development potential, would be strongly considered). TLR 2B (£3844). Aylesford School - Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School - Sports College we can offer you: A brand new school. Outstanding new facilities in all areas. NOT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. Your own laptop. A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who is able to start in September. Can motivate pupils through the curriculum. Has the desire to make the difference. Is focussed on developing their career further. Is able to teach ICT at key stage 3 and 4. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

To apply/more information: Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 05/82
Tel: 01622 717341
Email: jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Supply Lecturers Health and Social Care

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May Various hours available.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post S/H&SC
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Lecturers in Amenity Horticulture

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May Various hours available. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post S/AH
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply NVQ Assessors

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,727 - £25,548 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008
Various hours available. Early Years Post Ref: NVQ/EY
Work Post Ref: NVQ/PW.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post NVQ/EY
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply NVQ Assessors - Early Years

Canterbury
Salary: salary range £17,727 - £25,548 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Tuesday 27 May 2008
Various hours available.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post NVQ/EY
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Teacher of Health and Social Care

Tonbridge
Salary: MPS
Closing Date: 12th May 2008
Due to the outstanding success of this expanding department we are seeking to appoint a talented and committed teacher to • Work as part of a dynamic team to raise the aspirations of our students • The ability and potential to teach across the full age and attainment range from KS4 to post-16. Applications are welcome from unqualified teachers with relevant sector experience.
To apply/more information: Hillview School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 352793
Email: admin@hillview.kent.sch.uk

Teacher of Health and Social Care

Tonbridge
Salary: MPS
Closing Date: 12th May 2008
Due to the outstanding success of this expanding department we are seeking to appoint a talented and committed teacher to • Work as part of a dynamic team to raise the aspirations of our students • The ability and potential to teach across the full age and attainment range from KS4 to post-16. Applications are welcome from unqualified teachers with relevant sector experience.
To apply/more information: Hillview School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 352793
Email: admin@hillview.kent.sch.uk

Teachers Required

Gravesend
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: Friday 16th May 2008
To apply/more information: St John's Catholic Comprehensive School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 534718
Email: office@st-johns-gravesend.kent.sch.uk

Teachers Required for various subjects

Gravesend
Salary: tba
To apply/more information: Mrs Theresa Davies or Mrs Sam Chisholm
Northfleet School for Girls
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0844 477 2525
Email: email:personnel@northfleetgirls.kent.sch.uk

Trainer Demonstrator - Motor Vehicle/Motor Sport

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,375 per annum
Closing Date: 27 May 2008 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/67
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator - Plumbing

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,375 per annum
Closing Date: 27 May 2008 37 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/69
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator - Sport, Leisure, Travel and Tourism

Canterbury
Salary: salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: 27 May 2008 18.5 hrs per week.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 04/06
Tel: 01227 811282
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Trainer Demonstrator Business

Canterbury
Salary: £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 12 May 18.5 hrs per week. For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
To apply/more information: Personnel Office Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: Post 08/46
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email: applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

CONVERSION OPERATIVES

Gillingham
Salary: tba
To apply/more information: Fujii Seal Europe Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email: jobs@uk.fujiseal.com

Domestic Appliance Engineers

Ashford
Salary: TBC
2 Technicians required ASAP for Mid/East Kent. We are looking for Technicians with full multi skills in washing and cooking appliances. One Technician to be Corgi qualified and One

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Technician to be System Refrigeration trained. We offer a good rate of pay, up to 5 weeks holiday plus bank holidays, health care, pension, workwear and van with air conditioning. To apply with more information: Ashbridge Domestic Appliances Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01233 613461 Email service@ashbridgedomestic.co.uk

Full Time Electronics Technician

Maidstone
Salary: tba
required for busy test equipment recalibration and repair company. Knowledge of Electronic test equipment preferable. Competitive salary depending on experience plus bonus. Hours 8.30 to 4.30 Mon-Thurs, 8.30 to 4.00 Fri. Send CV to Mr A Willis, Alpha Electronics (Southern) Ltd, Unit 16 Wren Ind. Estate, Coldred Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 9YT. To apply with more information: Mr A Willis, Alpha Electronics (Southern) Ltd Quoting Job Ref: kos Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION ASSISTANT

Gillingham
Salary: tba
To apply with more information: Fuji Seal Europe Ltd Quoting Job Ref: kos Email jobs@uk.fujiseal.com

Graduate, Trainees

Graduate Teacher Programme

Ashford
Salary: tba
To apply with more information: Samantha Sullivan Ashford Christ Church Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01233 652 613 Email samsanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com

NON DESTRUCTIVE TESTING (NDT) APPRENTICE

Sandwich
Salary: tba
To apply with more information: Oceaneering Quoting Job Ref: APP/Dun2008 Email NDTRecruitment@oceaneering.com

Health & Safety, Security, Defense

GROUP HEALTH and SAFETY MANAGER

Ashford
Salary: Negotiable
To apply with more information: Sue Barlow GSE Group Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01233 506320 Email sue.barlow@gse-group.com

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

COMPUTER, HARDWARE and SOFTWARE TECHNICIAN

Gravesend
Salary: Kent Scheme Grade 6: Points 17 (£18,288 p.a.) to £20 (£20,061 p.a.) pro-rata. Closing Date: Friday 16th May
To apply with more information: Ifield District Special School Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01474 365485 Email ifieldschool@aol.com

PART TIME SYSTEMS DEVELOPER

London
Salary: Salary pro-rata to £23,002 - £27,486 per annum

To apply with more information: University of Greenwich Quoting Job Ref: 00965/K3 Email jobs@rg.ac.uk

Trussed Rafter Designer/Estimator

Ramsgate
Salary: TBC
To apply with more information: BSW Timber Systems Ltd. Quoting Job Ref: kos Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Insurance, Banking, Finance

Full Time General Insurance Adviser

Ashford
Salary: tba
required for busy Ramsgate office, must be computer literate and experience an advantage. Please apply in writing enclosing CV to Box No. 125, KOS Media Ltd, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent. TN25 6SR. To apply with more information: Undisclosed Quoting Job Ref: kos Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Assistant Manager

Folkestone
Salary: TBC
Required For Residential Care Home In Folkestone. We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. Must have Minimum NVQ Level 3 Qualification, and Experience in the role above. Subject to satisfactory CRB Check.

To apply with more information: Julia Carter (Home Manager) Quombria House Residential Home Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01303 254019 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Committee Services Manager

Thanet
Salary: £29,307 - £34,320 per annum
Closing Date: 23 May 2008
Under the guidance of the Democratic Services Manager, this new post will be responsible for managing a small team of officers providing committee services and implementing the above projects. Applicants need to be educated to degree-level (or equivalent), and have considerable experience of committee services, including management experience. To apply with more information: Thanet District Council Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01843 571715 Email personnel@thanet.gov.uk

Democratic (or Senior Democratic) Services Officer

Thanet
Salary: £16,590 to £27,321 per annum
Closing Date: 23 May 2008
This is a vacancy in a career graded post (salary on appointment is dependent upon qualifications and experience). Located within the committee side of the team, applicants should have experience of committee administration and be willing to contribute towards electoral services when needed. To apply with more information: Glenn Back, Thanet District Council Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01843 571717 Email personnel@thanet.gov.uk

Duty Manager

Chatham
Salary: £21,000 to £23,000
Closing Date: 23 May 2008

To apply with more information: Medway Council Quoting Job Ref: DM/AT Tel: 01474 33 70 00 Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

NVQ Manager

Sidcup
Salary: tba
To apply with more information: Ability Professional Training Ltd Quoting Job Ref: kos Email info@training.ac

Marketing, Advertising

GROUP MARKETING MANAGER

Ashford
Salary: Negotiable
To apply with more information: Sue Barlow - GSE Group Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01233 506320 Email sue.barlow@gse-group.com

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Motor Trade, Driver

BODY SHOP FITTER/STRIPPER

Sandwich
Salary: TBC
Due to an opening, our body shop requires a fully experienced fitter / stripper. The successful applicant should have at least 3 years experience, be able to work on their own initiative and to a high standard. Top rates of pay offered for the right applicant. To apply with more information: Tony Total Motor Care Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01304 620999 Email jobs@totalmotorcare.co.uk

EXPERIENCED CAR SALESPERSON

Maidstone
Salary: TBC
To apply with more information: Maidstone Kia Quoting Job Ref: kos Email chorswill@maidstonekia.co.uk

LGV 1 Drivers

Maidstone
Salary: Good rates of pay. Required for prestige Supermarket chain. 2 years experience - no more than 6 points. Various shifts available. Good rates of pay. To apply with more information: Crownwell Recruitment Kent Ltd Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: call 08450 091554 (Agy) Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Taxi Drivers

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
Full & part time taxi drivers required. www.a2cab.co.uk. To apply with more information: Elaine - A2 Cabs Ltd Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01795 431500 Email elaine@a2cab.co.uk

Warehouse Operatives

Maidstone
Salary: From £6.00 per hour. Required for days or nights. From £6.00 per hour. To apply with more information: Crownwell Recruitment Kent Ltd Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 08450 091554 (Agy) Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Not for profit, Charities

Executive Committee Members

Canterbury
Salary: 0
Closing Date: 30th June 2008
To apply with more information: Jason Gerlack East Kent Mencap Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01843 224482 Email jason.gerlack@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Community Carers and Domestic Carers

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Due to an expanding service, we require Community Carers & Domestic Carers to join our team in Folkestone/Hythe & Surrounding Villages. Experience preferred but not essential as all training is provided. • Must have own transport • Be flexible with working hours. • Work alternate weekends All posts are subject to enhanced disclosure. To apply with more information: Alison George Brampton Care Home Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01303 272348 Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

SUPPORT WORKER

Sevenoaks
Salary: Salary from £15,886
36 hours over 4.5 days per week to include 1 Sunday in 3 Experience preferred but training provided in all aspects of helping older people to maintain their independence. Parking on site, contrib. pension scheme, health cash-back plan. Please ring Jay Drake or Jane Vaughan on 01732 458762, for more information and an application form. This post will be subject to an Enhanced CRB Disclosure. To apply with more information: Jay Drake or Jane Vaughan Rockdale House Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01732 458762 Email enquiries@rockdale.org.uk

Other

Plumber

Gravesend
Salary: £328.81 per week plus productivity payment
Closing Date: 23 May 2008
To apply with more information: Medway Council Quoting Job Ref: PL/MC Tel: 01474 33 7000 Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

2 x Temporary Planning Admin Assistants

Sittingbourne
Salary: £12,183 to £15,240
Closing Date: 19 May 2008
To apply with more information: Swale Borough Council Quoting Job Ref: 6090D1 Tel: (01795) 417414 Email hr@swale.gov.uk

Assistant Social Worker

Ashford
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 21st May 2008
To apply with more information: Samantha Sullivan Ashford Christ Church Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01233 652613 Email samsanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com

Catering Supervisor

Gravesend
Salary: Salary: Circa £17,000 - £19,000m
Closing Date: 9 May 2008

To apply with more information: Gravesham Borough Council Quoting Job Ref: CS/ATV Tel: 01474 33 70 00 Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk, imag

Clerk to the Governors

Canterbury
Salary: Circa £24,000 pa
Closing Date: 16th May 2008 at noon
To apply with more information: Marion Wingington Spires Academy Quoting Job Ref: 05/01 Email m.wingington@spiresacademy.com

Commissionaire

Gravesend
Salary: Salary: Circa £6,500 - £8,500 pa.
Closing Date: 9 May 2008
To apply with more information: Gravesham Borough Council Quoting Job Ref: C/AT Tel: 01474 33 70 00 Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk, imag

OKS (ALUMNI) CO-ORDINATOR (PART-TIME)

Canterbury
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 14th May 2008
To apply with more information: Kings School Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01227 595655 (24 hour answerphone) Email recruitment@kings-bursary.co.uk

Part time Administrative Assistant

Gravesend
Salary: Salary: Circa £6,500 - £8,000 pa.
Closing Date: 9 May 2008
To apply with more information: Gravesham Borough Council Quoting Job Ref: AA/ATV Tel: 01474 33 70 00 Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk, imag

Part time Customer Service Officers

Gravesend
Salary: Salary: Circa £15,500 - £18,500 pro rata
Closing Date: 9th May 2008
To apply with more information: Gravesham Borough Council Quoting Job Ref: CSO/AT Tel: 01474 33 70 00 Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Policy and Performance Officer

Folkestone
Salary: £24,444 - £28,824 (pay award pending)
Closing Date: 16 May 2008
To apply with more information: Adrian Hammond Shepway District Council Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01303 853747 Email jobs@shepway.gov.uk

Street Sweeper/Driver

Sevenoaks
Salary: £15,027 p.a. to £18,316 p.a. rising to £19,442 p.a. (pay award pending)
Closing Date: Tuesday 6th May 2008
To apply with more information: The Human Resources Team Sevenoaks District Council Quoting Job Ref: CS:807 Tel: 01732 227102 (24 hours) Email recruitment@sevenoaks.gov.uk

Supervisor - Gas/EnergyR

Gravesend
Salary: Salary: Circa £21,500 to £25,500
Closing Date: 16 May 2008
To apply with more information: Gravesham Borough Council Quoting Job Ref: SGE/CT Tel: 01474 33 70 00 Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Surveyor (Contracts)

Gravesend
Salary: Salary: Circa £24,000 to £29,500

Closing Date: 16 May 2008
To apply with more information: Gravesham Borough Council Quoting Job Ref: ref - C7/CS Tel: 01474 33 70 00 Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

CAR SALES EXECUTIVE

Gillingham
Salary: tba
To apply with more information: Andrew Clarke, Sherlodge Garage Quoting Job Ref: kos Email andrew.clarke@sherlodgegarageskoda.co.uk

International Management Trainee

Canterbury
Salary: £30k+ OTE
Closing Date: 28th May 2008
To apply with more information: John Box Melwater News Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 0122767911 Email recruitment.canterbury@melwaternews.com

Sales

Kent
Salary: TBC
Everest Home Improvements are a National Company with local positions, and are seeking people who want to enjoy the financial benefits, and incentive rewards on offer for working with them to further grow their successful business. There is real potential: • To earn over £50k in your first 12 months • For ongoing development • To sell a range of fantastic products for the market leader, including flat roofs, garage doors, driveways, intruder alarms, doors and windows. You must: • Have your own car and phone • Be able to communicate effectively www.everest.co.uk
To apply with more information: Everest Ltd Quoting Job Ref: KOS/19 Tel: 0800 028 3043 Email sales_recruitment@everest.co.uk

SHOP ASSISTANT

Rochester
Salary: £6.25 ph
Required to work in busy professional golf shop Work will involve manual handling. £6.25 p/h, approx 25-30 hours a week including weekend work.
To apply with more information: Mr David Smith, Rochester & Cobham Park Golf Club Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01474 823411 Email rpgc@talk21.com

TRAVEL SALES CONSULTANTS

Folkestone
Salary: Competitive salaries + attractive commission + benefits
Closing Date: 21 May 2008.
To apply with more information: Saga Quoting Job Ref: SH203/KOS Tel: 01303 774888 Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Scientific & Pharmaceutical, Research

Project Leader

Sittingbourne
Salary: Competitive Salary
To apply with more information: Mrs Odette Bennett Scipac Limited Quoting Job Ref: kos Tel: 01795 423077 Email odette.bennett@scipac.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

Medway County Court Case No. AA9 of 2008
CHAMELON FINISHING LIMITED
Company Number 05020150.
Nature of Business: Engineering, Registered Office of Company: 1st Floor, Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4QU. DTI Trade Classification: 2875. Administrator appointment made on: 1 May 2008. Name and address of Administrator: David Ronald Elliott of Moore Stephens LLP, 1st Floor, Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4QU. (IP No 1141).

HANCOCK INNS LIMITED HANCOCK INNS (SOUTHERN) LIMITED
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that meetings of creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 2.00 pm on 14 May 2008 at 141 Parrock Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1EY for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the Companies creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 141 Parrock Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1EY on the 12th and 13th May 2008, the two business days before the date of the meetings. Dated this 30th day of April 2008 By Order of the Board M E Hancock, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986 CRIGHTONS & CO (2002) LIMITED (Company Number 4395027)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at 141 Parrock Street, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 1EY on 23 May 2008, at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Sections 99 to 101 of the Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge their proxy, together with statement of claim, at the offices of Langley Group LLP, Langley House, Park Road, London N2 8EX, not later than 12.00 noon on the business day preceding that of the Meeting of Creditors. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection, free of charge, at the offices of Langley Group LLP on the two business days preceding that of the Meeting of Creditors between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm. Dated: 1 May 2008 Stanley Crichton, Director

We, Restaurant Concepts Ltd, are applying for a Variation Premises Licence at: Coco Diner, 330 High Street, Chatham, Kent ME4 4NR.

The application is made to: Medway Council, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, Kent ME4 4TR and we are asking to be licensed for the following licensable activities: Provision of regulated entertainment – Plays (10.00 – 02.00), Films (10.00 – 02.00), Live Music (10.00 – 03.00), Recorded Music (10.00 – 03.00), Performance of Dance (10.00 – 03.00), Anything of a similar description to that of the Music and Dance (10.00 – 03.00), Provision of Entertainment Facilities for dancing (10.00 – 03.00), Provision of Late Night Refreshment (23.00 – 03.00) and Sale by retail of alcohol (10.00 – 03.00).

Should you wish to make representations to the council, it must be in writing. You can study this application by contacting the council by 0770608.

It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction is £5,000.

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Highways - Borough of Ashford

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS IN ASHFORD) (ROAD CLOSURE) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008**

NOTICE is hereby given that to allow highway maintenance works to take place the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on the routes described in column 1 of the Schedule hereto on or after 12th May 2008 for an estimated period of one week or for a period not exceeding 18 months. The alternative for each route described in column 1 of the Schedule hereto is described in column 2 of that Schedule.

THE SCHEDULE

Specified Road	length of road affected
Harvey Road, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Woodlands Road, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Housefield, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Hewitts Place, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Willow Tree Close, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Field End, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Windmill Close, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Oast Meadow, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Taywood Close Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Brooke Road, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Longbridge, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Kirkwood Avenue, Woodchurch for its entire length.	None available.
Sotherton, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Alsops Road, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Falcon Way, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Julian Way, Ashford for its entire length.	Holmwood Road and The Rise.
The Rise, Ashford for its entire length.	Holmwood Road and Julian Way
Hawks Way, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Farm Close, Ashford for its entire length.	None available.
Cuckoo Lane, Ashford for its entire length.	Beaver Lane, Cryol Road, St Stephens Walk, Athol Road and Stanhope Road.

Advance road works information boards will be placed prior to works commencing on site, giving details as to when works are scheduled to commence and expected duration. Order will only be effective when the appropriate signs are displayed.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(SOUTHENAY LANE, EAST BRABOURNE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Southenay Lane, East Brabourne from junction of Fiddling Lane and Priory Lane on or after the 12th May 2008 for an estimated period of up to 8 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via Broad Street, Cock Ash, Moorstock Lane, Ashford Road, Stone Hill and Southenay Lane and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to lay a new water main. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Nicola Stone of Clancy Docwra on 01634 873290.

Highways - District of Canterbury

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROAD, CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because electrical duct laying and cabling works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Road, Canterbury as described in column 1 of schedule to this order on or after 26 May 2008 for an estimated period of 18 months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 3 of that schedule.

Specified Road	length of road affected	alternative routes	Programmed date
Phase 1			
St. Peters Lane, Canterbury	From the junction with St. Peters Street to junction with Westgate Hall Road.	St. Peters Lane and Pound Lane.	26 May for up to 3 weeks.
Phase 2			
St. Peters Lane, Canterbury	From the junction with Westgate Hall Road to the access to Dominican Priory.	St. Peters Lane, Pound Lane, Pound Lane Car Park and Westgate Hall Road	9 June for up to 2 weeks
Phase 3			
St. Peters Lane, Canterbury	From the junction with Pound Lane for a distance of approximately 20 metres in a southerly direction.	Pound Lane, Pound Lane Car Park, Westgate Hall Road and St. Peters Place	16 June for up to 1 week
Phase 4			
St. Peters Grove, Canterbury.	From its junction with St. Peters Place to its junction with Tower Way. CLOSED TO PEDESTRIANS ONLY.	Pedestrian diversion via St. Peters Street, Black Griffin Lane and Tower Way.	7 July for up to 2 weeks.

This Order will come into force on Monday 26 May 2008, and will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, CANTERBURY) (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because new water mains works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make order restricting traffic from travelling at a speed exceeding 40mph on various roads, Canterbury as described in column 1 of schedule to this order on or after 26 May 2008 for an estimated period of 16 weeks or until such works are complete.

Specified Road	length of road affected
Milton Manor Road, Canterbury	From its junction with A28 Ashford Road to its junction with Cockerling Road.
Cockerling Road, Canterbury	From its junction with Milton Manor Road for 150 metres in a south westerly direction.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(KINGSDOWN PARK, WHITSTABLE) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because footway reconstruction and utility service connections works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Kingsdown Park, Whitstable from the northern boundary of property 87 to the junction with Tankerton Circus on 13 May 2008 for an estimated period of 2 weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via East bound via Northwood Road and St Mary's Road; Westbound via Tankerton Road, Castle Road and Northwood Road.

Highways - District of Dover

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BRANCH STREET DOVER) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because crane lifting works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Branch Street Dover from its junction with Bridge Street to its junction from Peter Street on or after 18 May 2008 for an estimated period of 1 day or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Bridge Street, High Street and Peter Street.

Highways - Borough of Gravesham

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
A227 WROTHAM ROAD, GRAVESEND, ST THOMAS' AVENUE, GRAVESEND AND KENT ROAD, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are being carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on A227 Wrotham Road prohibiting left turns into Old Road West; on St Thomas' Avenue prohibiting vehicular traffic travelling from Trosley Avenue towards A227 Wrotham Road and on Kent Road prohibiting vehicular traffic travelling from Darnley Road to Wrotham Road.

The Order will become effective on 12th May 2008, for a total period of up to sixteen weeks or, until completion of the planned works. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative routes for the routes described above will be via:

Wrotham Road: New House Lane, Dashwood Road and Old Road West.
St Thomas' Avenue: St Thomas' Avenue, Woodfield Avenue and Old Road West
Kent Road: Darnley Road, Old Road West, A227 Wrotham Road.
The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Gas Main replacement works to be undertaken in the carriageway.

**KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
HALL ROAD, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are being carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Hall Road, Gravesend between 93 and 125.

The Order will become effective on 12th May 2008, for a period of up to one evening or a weekend in the following four weeks or, until completion of the planned works. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Old Road West, Dover Road East, Thames Way, Springhead Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate High Friction Surfacing to be applied to the carriageway.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PILGRIMS WAY, DETLING) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Pilgrims Way, Detling, outside The Croft between the times of 0930hrs and 1530hrs on or after Tuesday 27th May 2008 when required for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via Thurnham Lane, Ware Street, Hockers Lane, The Street and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to restore customer service in the area. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Tracy Zeal of Ashtead Plant Hire Company Ltd on 01666 828670.

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BRISHING ROAD, MAIDSTONE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Brishing Road at a point outside Mount Pleasant Farm to the junction of Brishing Lane on or after Monday 12th May 2008 for a period of up to 4 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for southbound traffic via Brishing Lane, Heath Road and for northbound traffic vice versa.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new electricity supply, should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Emma Orsborne of Amber Langis Limited on 01474 573831.

Highways - District of Shepway

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, NEW ROMNEY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because sewer connection works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Various Roads, New Romney from as described in column 1 of schedule to this order on 12 May 2008 for an estimated period of 5 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for each road described in column 1 of the schedule to this order is described in column 3 of that schedule.

Specified Road	length of road affected	alternative routes	Programmed date
Phase 1			
Church Lane, New Romney.	From the junction with Church Road to its junction Tookey Road.	Church Lane, Wiles Avenue, Marsh Crescent, The Churchlands and Church Road.	12 May 2008 for up to 5 days.
Phase 2			
Church Road Romney	From its junction with Church Lane to its junction Church Close.	Church Lane, Wiles Avenue, Marsh Crescent, The Churchlands.	19 May 2008 for up to 5 days.

This Order will come into force on Monday 12 May 2008, and will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months or until the works are completed, whichever is the sooner.

Highways - Borough of Swale

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(SWALE WAY, SITTINGBOURNE) (40 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984**

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council is proposing to make an Order under Sections 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will impose a 40 mph speed limit on Swale Way, Sittingbourne between Castle Road and Great East Hall.

A copy of the proposed Order, an explanatory statement and a map showing the details of the scheme can be inspected during normal working hours at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone Kent, ME14 1XQ and at Swale Borough Council Offices, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT.

Anyone wishing to support or object to this proposal may do so in writing quoting the name of the Order and Reference No. "B0314300" to Diane Bourne at Miller House, Lower Stone Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6GB, stating their reasons by no later than Monday 2nd June 2008.

Highways - District of Thanet

**THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(EBBSFLEET LANE, RICHBOROUGH) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Notice is hereby given that because Water pipe works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Ebbsfleet Lane, Richborough from its junction with A256 Ramsgate Road to its junction with Grinsell Hill on or after 12 May 2008 for an estimated period of 2 Weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via A256, A299 and Thorn Hill.

**For further information, please contact Geoff Harrison-Mee,
Director for Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways**





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VW's green light for BlueMotion line-up

VOLKSWAGEN is the first car company to hit the UK market with a whole range of greener cars, though they are branded 'BlueMotion'.

Colour confusion apart, they do underline the German group's lead in the battle against fuel consumption and emissions using techniques also employed by other VW house brands, Audi, Skoda and Seat.

The BlueMotion name was first used on the tailgate of a Polo supermini late in September 2007 – see our Motors TV report at www.carsforkent.co.uk. VW envisaged bringing in less than a thousand initially – the figure was quickly more than doubled and demand still outstrips supply.

Improved

However, the proof of the pudding is in new BlueMotion versions of VW's best-seller, the Golf hatchback and its smart company car contender, the Passat.

Both cars offer more economical and cleaner alternatives now without major compromises while we wait for improved technology to arrive.

Even VW would admit that BlueMotion is not rocket science and probably could have been introduced earlier if the market had been open to it, but some car buyers still do not

By **STEVE LOADER**

understand or recognise something that even George Bush has now acknowledged – global warming.

BlueMotion comprises an efficient 'Pumpe Duse' VW diesel with catalyst and particulate filter to slash harmful emissions, high output turbocharger, 'longer' gearing to lower engine speed and improve economy plus simple aerodynamic changes to cut drag, with some versions having their suspension lowered. Harder compound tyres with low rolling resistance are also part of the mix.

In the case of the Golf, the measures add about £500 to its standard equivalent; a sum you will recover quickly in road tax – the BlueMotion sneaks into the £35/year band-B – and by averaging around 8mpg more. Both points make the Golf an even more popular company car choice.

That said the harder tyres compromise the ride quality slightly and make the car noisier at speed. However, you should not even be thinking of a greener car if you detect the slight deterioration in the Golf's normally high level of handling.

In many ways, the Passat is a more impressive effort and a surefire company car winner for those needing to clock up serious miles. On

firing up a BlueMotion estate, I was amazed to see the on-board computer telling me I had a potential range of more than 700 miles available – and the tank was not even full.

Admittedly, motorway cruising is not going to be best in class with those tyres and an ageing engine design, but the economy and feel-good factor will make it worth while.

Other BlueMotion editions just added include the Golf's Jetta saloon and Golf Plus MPV spin-offs – both under-rated models that will surely benefit from the tax efficiencies and green aura endowed by BlueMotion.

If you wanted to be cynical, you could say that VW is doing just enough to stay inside in the greener motoring debate, but it has stated that development will not end here.

The company has already unveiled a Golf diesel hybrid concept – Toyota's Prius partners petrol with electric power – and this should average around 80mpg and emit just 89g/km of CO₂ compared with 104 for the Toyota.

A further concept sees a low capacity/high output 148bhp 1.4-litre petrol engine fitted to a Passat capable of running on petrol or natural gas and the VW group is also developing a fuel cell – the 'Holy Grail' of emission-free motoring.



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INSIDE



S3 Sportback for new Audi Page 50



Latino legend is reborn Pages 56-57



Big changes to bike test Pages 60-61



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Ibiza Sportrider 1.4 16V 100PS & 1.9 TDI 100PS ^

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- Front fog lights
- Electrically adjustable, heated and folding door mirrors
- Body-coloured door handles and mirrors
- Bespoke 'Sportrider' tailgate graphic

Ibiza Sportrider 1.4 16V 100PS

£9,495 RRP

Ibiza Sportrider 1.9 TDI 100PS

£10,395 RRP

Ibiza Freerider 1.2 12V 70PS

Specification highlights

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- Climate control
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- Front fog lights
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Ibiza Freerider 1.2 12V 70PS

£8,995 RRP

Ibiza – different rituals, same spirit



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Barretts SEAT The Westgate, Canterbury. Tel 01227 864455

^The model shown is Ibiza Sportrider 1.9 TDI 100PS.

Official fuel consumption for the SEAT Ibiza range in mpg (litres per 100km); urban 31.7 (8.9) - 57.6 (4.9); extra-urban 53.3 (5.3) - 88.3 (3.2); combined 42.8 (6.5) - 74.3 (3.8). CO₂ emissions 99 - 154 g/km.

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LOWEST: C5 1.6Hdi 16V (110HP) SALOON 7.3/38.7, 4.7/60.1, 5.6/50.4, 149. HIGHEST: C5 2.7Hdi V6 (208HP) AUTO TOURER 11.9/23.7, 6.5/43.5, 8.5/33.2, 225

*ON THE ROAD RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICES AND OFFERS APPLY TO CUSTOMERS ORDERING AND REGISTERING THEIR QUALIFYING NEW VEHICLES BY 30/04/08 AND INCLUDE VAT, DELIVERY TO DEALER AND NUMBER PLATES, GOVERNMENT FIRST REGISTRATION FEE, AND 12 MONTHS' GRADUATED VEHICLE EXCISE DUTY. BLACK METALLIC PAINT OPTIONAL AT EXTRA COST. MODEL SHOWN C5 2.0i 16V 143HP AUTO EXCLUSIVE WITH OPTIONAL 19" ADRIATIC ALLOY WHEELS. FINANCE SUBJECT TO STATUS. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM CITROËN FINANCIAL SERVICES, QUADRANT HOUSE, PRINCESS WAY, REDHILL, SURREY RH1 1DA, UK. OVER 18S ONLY. A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY. OFFERS, PRICES AND SPECIFICATIONS CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS FROM PARTICIPATING DEALERS. CITROËN TOTAL FOR PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND QUALIFYING BUSINESS USERS. COMPANIES WITH A CENTRALLY NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT WITH CITROËN UK LTD, NATIONAL FLEETS, MOTABILITY, CONTRACT HIRE AND DRIVING SCHOOLS ARE EXCLUDED FROM THESE OFFERS. ALL MODELS SUBJECT TO STOCK AVAILABILITY. FINANCE OFFERS APPLY TO UK MAINLAND ONLY. EURO NCAP FOR ADULT OCCUPANT PROTECTION DATA ASSESSED: C5 SALOON DECEMBER 2007.

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Model shown may have optional extras available at an extra cost. 2 Years 0% Finance available on New Agila Design models. Minimum deposit of 50% required. Finance by GMAC UK plc subject to status, applicants must be 18 or over. Available at participating retailers only. Offers apply to eligible new vehicles ordered or registered between 02.04.08 and 01.07.08, subject to availability, and are available to private individuals, Vauxhall Partners, and small businesses 1-24 (purchase only). All other sales categories are excluded. Offers may not apply to all retailer stocks. UK supplied vehicles only. Reference to Manola Blahnik footwear brand does not imply or assert any approval or endorsement by that brand of Vauxhall or the New Agila, and all Trademarks are freely acknowledged.

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader



S3 Sportback for new A3

AUDI will facelift its big-selling A3 hatchback this summer though the cosmetic changes are minimal.

The now familiar 'trapezoidal' grille – the trademark that Audi needed to compete with distinctive BMW and

Mercedes-Benz noses – still dominates, but most attention is focused on the fiery S3 model being made available in practical five-door Sportback format too. Like the three-door S3, the new Sportback version uses the turbocharged 265bhp

2.0 TFSI petrol engine.

Lesser models can also be spec'd up with seven-speed 'S tronic' dual-clutch transmission or adaptable magnetic ride suspension control for sharper handling and ride. Prices are to be announced.



Aggressive pricing on Renault 4x4

RENAULT aims to overcome its late entry into the 4x4 market by launching the Koleos 'crossover' vehicle this summer.

Part of its catch-up plan is aggressive pricing, so Koleos prices will start at £17,995, rising to £24,695. Low entry prices have been enabled by two-wheel drive only versions – a ploy used by Renault's partner brand Nissan on its Qashqai and X-Trail SUVs (sports utility vehicles).

Conscious it has no history of rugged road-going

cars, Renault has also boosted the warranty from its usual 60,000 miles over three years to 100,000, though it leaned heavily on Nissan's 4x4 expertise so the extra cover is unlikely to be needed.

Renault aimed to give the Koleos 'MPV levels of comfort and interior space combined with robust exterior styling and genuine off-road ability' so there is a split-opening tailgate, impressive accommodation and load-carrying ability, plus hill start assist and hill descent control systems.



Spider money goes further

PERFECTLY timed for our first glimpse of summer sun this week, Alfa Romeo has announced a head-turning Alfa Spider special.

The £25,500 Alfa Spider Limited Edition gains £3,000 worth of extras at no extra cost, including Italian 'Frau' leather seats and Blue&Me hands-free

system with voice recognition and media player.

Other features include 19-inch alloys and electrically adjustable and heated memory front seats and door mirrors.

There are also bespoke colours for the Alfa Spider Limited Edition including 'Carbonio Black' and 'Ghiaccio

White' – the latter underlining the resurgence of white as a popular choice with buyers.

The 185bhp 2.2 JTS petrol engine powers the Alfa Spider from 0-62mph in 8.8 seconds and to a maximum of 139mph.

• See Steve Loader's Motors TV report on the Alfa Spider at www.carsforkent.co.uk.

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by
STEVELOADER

FIAT'S decision to offer a five-year/unlimited mileage warranty might be an act of desperation or the opening salvo in 'Warranty Wars'.

The Bravo is a smart looking, well-priced Ford Focus challenger with a good range of engines, but it has not stormed the sales charts.

This is partly due to Fiat's chequered history in the 'family hatchback' sector – the Bravo's Stilo predecessor was dull and unreliable – and the Italian brand's patchy overall record for reliability and customer satisfaction, as shown by bottom place in the 2008 What Car?/JD Power survey.

There are signs of change though since the same survey shows the Fiat Panda as the UK's most reliable city car and its underpinnings have been used for the Fiat 500 – the 'in' car with the young and trendy. A five-year/unlimited ticket for the Bravo should help too, especially with other deals thrown in by dealers.

Affordable

It may also wake up complacent rivals who have ignored bold warranty initiatives by the Korean duo, Hyundai and Kia.

Hyundai has backed its entire range with a five-year/unlimited warranty for several years. Cynics may say it had to when the product was so unappealing, even if the warranty underlined reliability.

However, Hyundai is amidst a radical overhaul of its line-up and already has a star in the SUV (sports utility vehicle) sector, with its smart yet affordable Santa Fe.

Kia has gone one better, by offering seven-year/100,000-mile warranties on selected new models, including the Focus-class Ceed family and post-facelift Sportage SUV, although it remains tight-lipped about extending such cover to older models.

Admittedly, both companies needed the

Opening salvo of a warranty war?



FIAT BRAVO: Gains a five-year 'ticket'

warranties to increase market awareness and confidence, slow depreciation on the used market and, thereby, attract new buyers to build market share.

But shouldn't established brands be responding with better warranties to demonstrate confidence in their own product and prevent Kia and Hyundai stealing a chunk of the market share?

Fact is, most mainstream manufacturers stick to the benchmark three-year/60,000-mile war-



KIA CEED: Backed for seven years by the car-makers

ranty: Alfa Romeo, Audi, Chevrolet, Chrysler group, Citroen, Fiat (except the Bravo), Ford, Lexus, Mazda, MINI, Nissan, Peugeot, Proton, Renault, Saab, Seat, Skoda, Subaru, Suzuki, Toyota, Vauxhall, VW and Volvo.

Thankfully, there are some that back their engineering with unlimited mileage on the three years: Aston Martin, BMW, Bentley, Daihatsu, Jaguar, Land Rover, Mercedes-Benz, Mitsubishi and smart, with Honda placing a 90,000-mile limit on the three years.

Rolls-Royce goes one better with a four-year/unlimited deal, though this looks poor against the Kia and Hyundai pitch, especially when 'Rollers' start at £265,500 – enough to buy more than 40 of Hyundai's new five-year/unlimited i10 city cars.

And shame on Malaysia's Perodua for its miserly two-year/24,000-mile guarantee and on Porsche – just two years/unlimited for a company priding itself on its engineering prowess?

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Official government fuel consumption figures (mpg/litres per 100km) for the SLK-Class range: urban 25.7-16.0/11.0-17.7, extra urban 49.6-32.1/5.7-8.8, combined 36.7-23.5/7.7-12.0. CO2 emissions: 182-288 g/km.

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Offer available on Alfa Romeo Spider 2.2 JTS Limited Edition vehicles only. Model shown, Alfa Spider 2.2 JTS Limited Edition at £25,500 on the road.

Official fuel consumption figures for the Alfa Spider Limited Edition 2.2 JTS in mpg (l/100km): Urban 22.0 (12.0) Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) Combined 36.7 (9.2) CO2 emissions g/km: 218.

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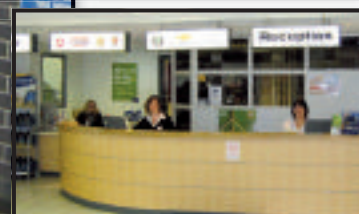
Specialising in multi-brand after sales care, the outlet boasts an advanced 18-bay workshop, which features the very latest fault-finding diagnostic machinery and is equipped to complete every kind of service from routine maintenance, tyre fitting to MoT testing and the replacement of major drivetrain components. Official parts and accessories and a valeting service are also available.

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considerable savings on parts, labour, accessories and even MoT testing and tyres. Other benefits include free seasonal safety checks and a complimentary wash and vacuum with every service.

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Models shown are Terios 1.5 SX available at £14,295 OTR, and Sirion 1.3 SE available at £8,995 OTR. Materia 1.5 with manual transmission available at £10,495 including £500 off until 30th June 2008, and Copen 1.3 available at £11,495 OTR. Metallic paint is an extra cost on all vehicles. Leather seats are extra cost on Copen. *Terios was awarded 'Best Budget 4x4' in 4x4 Magazine's 4x4 of the Year Awards 2008. All prices include £55 first registration fee and 12 months road fund license. 5 year warranty includes 5 years roadside assistance. For further details please contact your Daihatsu dealer. Prices correct at time of going to print.

Official government fuel consumption figures for passenger cars mpg (litres/100km) and CO₂ emissions (g/km) Urban Cycle 26.4 (10.7) – 46.3 (6.1) Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) – 64.2 (4.4) Combined 33.2 (8.5) – 56.5 (5.0) CO₂ emissions 118 – 201.

0% finance on selected 08 models.

3 years warranty and 3 years Chevrolet roadside assistance.

Kalos 1.2 SE 5dr

Typical HP 0% finance example:
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Total charge for finance: **£0**
Total amount payable: **£6,994.08**

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Vehicles shown feature metallic paint available at extra cost (Matiz £325, Kalos and Lacetti £350). 3 years/30,000 miles full service package at an optional cost of £199. Finance by Santander PLC. Available at participating retailers only. Not available in conjunction with any other offers. The savings are against current MRP and available on UK supplied vehicles ordered and registered before 30th June 2008. Prices correct at time of press.

Official Government Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km). Matiz 1.0 SE: Urban – 39.2 (7.2), Extra-urban – 60.1 (4.7), Combined – 50.4 (5.6), CO₂ emissions 139g/km. Kalos 1.2 SE: Urban – 33.2 (8.5), Extra-urban – 54.3 (5.2), Combined – 44.1 (6.4), CO₂ emissions 153g/km. Lacetti 1.4 SE Hatchback: Urban – 28.8 (9.8), Extra-urban – 49.5 (5.7), Combined – 39.2 (7.2), CO₂ emissions 171g/km.



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DrivingReview

by
STEVE LOADERCHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk**Fiat500**

FIAT'S new 500 model could yet become more significant than any of its famous predecessors.

This would be through adding impetus to a Fiat comeback powered by car buyers thinking "small, economical, environmentally friendly... and fun."

It is also a neat payback for the Italian brand after years of struggling to be seen as more than a maker of little cars – with consequently smaller profits.

Inspiration

The original two-seat 500 Topolino – just two metres long and nick-named after Italy's answer to Mickey Mouse – arrived in 1936 and, with nips and tucks, soldiered on until 1955, gaining credit for putting the ordinary Italian onto four wheels in the same way as the Model T Ford, Austin Seven and VW Beetle did on home turf.

The 500 mantle was then taken over in 1957 by the 500 Nuova or 'Bambino' (see picture), which became another 'Cinquecento' icon and inspiration for the latest 500, which has taken Europe and the UK by storm – also picking up the coveted European Car of the Year award for 2007.

Latest Fiat 500 will polish Latin legend



FUN-SIZED ICON: The Fiat 500 Nuova (left) is the inspiration for the new 500, which has taken the UK and continental car market by storm

It is faithful in style to the Nuova inside and out, although modern crash protection, comfort demands and other technology means that the sizing is more Rocky IV than original Rocky.

The interior blends retro inspiration and feel-alike materials, but of a much higher quality than expected on a car starting at a modest £7,900, which is why the new 500 has assumed a premium image.

Fiat dealers confirm that upmarket Sport and Lounge versions are commanding most interest and buyers are also lavishing their cars with expensive custom finishes and

equipment, capitalizing on image consciousness in the same way as BMW's reborn MINI.

There are four trim levels in all, three engines – 1.2 and 1.4 petrol plus a 1.3 diesel – 15 interior schemes and 12 exterior colours, including six 50s and 60s hues, with the several shades of white helping the rehabilitation of that colour in buyers' eyes.

Fact is that, like the MINI, few 500s will be identical and that should make the car a winner on the used market too, coupled with assurance of good reliability due to shared underpinnings from the Fiat Panda five-door

runabout – the best city car on the UK market for reliability according to the latest JD Power customer satisfaction survey.

Inheriting the Panda running gear and chassis is not all good news though; a relatively long wheelbase for their sizes cannot stop both cars suffering from a slightly unsettled ride, while the electric power steering can feel vague.

However, a test drive in a 1.4 Sport loaned by Medway Autos of Rainham, proved a pleasant all-round experience even if blokes are unlikely to be the main customers for the 500 – a hot Abarth 500 version is also in the pipeline.

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Optional purchase payment	£10,100
Total amount payable by customer††	£22,838

4.9 % APR Typical**300C 3.0 CRD Touring**

OTR	£28,005
Dealer deposit contribution	£2,585
Customer deposit	£4,499
Amount of credit	£20,921
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Acceptance fee	£180
Optional purchase payment	£12,275
Total amount payable by customer††	£27,813

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FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES FOR THE CHRYSLER RANGE IN MPG: URBAN 13.5 - 34.4, EXTRA URBAN 28.0 - 55.4, COMBINED 20.0 - 47.2. CO2 EMISSIONS IN G/KM 170 - 330 G/KM.

MODELS SHOWN: CHRYSLER 300C 3.0 TOURING £27,995 OTR. MODEL FEATURES STARTER BY BRABUS CHROME MESH GRILLE - ADDITIONAL ACCESSORY RRP £295.00 (EXCLUDING FITTING). *BASED ON A TOTAL OF 69 AWARDS WON IN AMERICA FOR THE 300 DURING INTRODUCTORY MODEL YEAR (2005). CHRYSLER SEBRING 2.0 LIMITED £17,995.00 OTR, FEATURING OPTIONAL METALLIC PAINT AT AN ADDITIONAL £400. CHRYSLER VOYAGER 2.8 CRD EXECUTIVE £23,970 OTR, INCLUDING A £2000 DEALER SAVING. PT CRUISER 2.4 LIMITED MANUAL £16,080 OTR, FEATURING OPTIONAL METALLIC PAINT AT AN ADDITIONAL £400. CHRYSLER IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF CHRYSLER LLC. OTR PRICES INCLUDE ROAD FUND LICENCE (£170-£400) AND FIRST REGISTRATION FEE (£35). CHRYSLER IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF CHRYSLER LLC. OFFER VALID AT PARTICIPATING DEALERS AND APPLY TO 2007 MODEL YEAR VEHICLES ONLY. OFFERS VALID ON SELECTED MODELS PURCHASED AND REGISTERED BETWEEN 1st APRIL AND 30 JUNE 2008. NOT TO BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH ANY OTHER OFFER. FINANCE OFFER: *TYPICAL 4.9% APR ON SELECTED MODELS ON A CHRYSLER ABILITY PLAN. £180 ACCEPTANCE FEE IS INCLUDED WITH FIRST PAYMENT. †PAYABLE IF YOU EXERCISE THE OPTION TO PURCHASE THE CAR. ††INCLUDES OPTIONAL PURCHASE PAYMENT AND PURCHASE ACTIVATION FEE £85 BASED ON 10,000 MILES PER ANNUM. EXCESS MILEAGE CHARGES MAY APPLY. FINANCE SUBJECT TO STATUS FROM DAWLER/CHRYSLER FINANCIAL SERVICES MK7 LTD. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY. PRICES AND SPECIFICATIONS CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS (04/08).



The seats are retro yet really are as comfortable and well-padded as they look, while the chunky plastic trimming and sturdy fittings such as the 'billiard ball' gear knob look sturdy and durable as well as authentically 50s/60s.

Rear seat and space is reasonable for a car of this scale and capable of carrying two adults,

but I suspect most will be used predominantly as two-seaters and shopping trolleys, for which the modest boot is ideal.

One issue that will be corrected quickly and cheaply, I suspect, is the lack of a driver's side vanity mirror – I cannot see how Fiat managed to forget this when its primary target market is female.

Slightly jittery ride apart, the 500 with the 1.4 engine is also well able to hold its own on the motorway with reasonable refinement, while it makes an excellent town runabout, with good grip on cornering even if the chassis is not a true driver pleaser – it will be interesting to see how Fiat presents that Abarth version.

DrivingStats

- Fiat 500 1.4 Sport £10,710
- Range: £7,905-test car.
- Garage stats: 3.54m by 1.68m three-door hatchback.
- Powertrain: 1,368cc/100bhp four-cylinder petrol engine driving front wheels through a six-speed manual gearbox.
- Performance: top speed 113mph and 0-62mph in 10.5 seconds.
- How green?: road tax band-C (£120/yr) and 149g/km CO2 emissions.
- Official fuel figures: combined 44.8mpg.
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): *****
- Fuel tank: 35 litres/7.7 gallons.
- Insurance group: 6.
- Warranty: three years/60,000 miles.
- Website: www.fiat.co.uk
- Rivals: Chevrolet Matiz, Citroën C1 or C2, Fiat Panda, Ford Ka, Hyundai i10, Kia Picanto, MINI, Mitsubishi i-Car, Perodua Kelisa, Peugeot 107, Renault Twingo, smart fortwo, Suzuki Swift, Toyota Aygo and VW Fox.

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†Typical 0% APR applies to 307 CC models. Offers subject to status. Over 18s only. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available on request from the dealer address above and Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill RH1 1QA. *This payment does not have to be made if you choose to hand your car back to Peugeot. Prices, offers and information correct at time of going to press. Offers apply to vehicles ordered and registered from 01/05/08 until such point as they may be withdrawn by the above dealer at its discretion. Offers subject to availability. *Prices quoted are on the road and include delivery to dealership, number plates, 12 months' Government Vehicle Excise Duty, £55 Government First Registration Fee and apply to 307 CC 1.6 Allure 16v. Models shown are for illustrative purposes only.

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Official fuel consumption figures in mpg(l/100km) for the Ford range shown are: urban 32.5(8.7); extra urban 51.4(5.5); combined 42.2(6.7). Official CO₂ emission figure 159.0g/km.

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147 1.6, T SPARK, 2001, red, 50685 miles, £3995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

AUDI

A3 - 1.8 T SPORT 3dr, 1067649, audi a3 1.8 t sport 3dr hyundai ashford drake & fletcher red, 2003, 27000 miles, manual, petrol, 3 doors, 1 previous owners, red, £8495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

A4, 1.9TDI 130 SE ESTATE, 2003, black n with grey cloth, 67000 miles, £8950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BENTLEY

ARNAGE, red label auto, 2001, blenheim silver with black leather, 50000 miles, £44950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

BMW

3 SERIES, 2002, grey, 62684 miles, £8995, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, cts 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTZ 2.0, gk80rw, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22950, callyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d ix side door white pas 43,000 miles fish lined, £4800, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CA, 1.6 16V SX 5dr Auto, 2005, 1.6i 16v sx 5dr auto hatch, normandy green, 13568 miles, £7995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

NUBIRA 4 door, 08, 0 miles, £500, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

LANOS, 1.4 S Hatchback 3d 1393cc, w539vm, new mot very clean cheap tax & insurance, green, 33935 miles, £1495.00, DCD Autos, ASHFORD, 01233 642211 (TRADE)

FIAT

FIAT DUCATO 14 2.8 (jd, 02 2002, 14 seats minibus rollit ri axle 40,000 miles fullit air suspension ex council ideal camper conversion, £7995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

MAREA, TD 100 SX WEEKEND, 1998, red, 106000 miles, £995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PUNTO, ELX 16V, 2000, met green, 0 miles, £2495, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

FORD

FORD CONNECT, 04 2004, t200 1.8 tddi 75 ps swb met red lined 48,000 miles, £4495, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FORD MONDEO ESTATE, 08 1998, 1.6 i metallic silver 98,000 miles mot sep 08 air /con, £395, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 FINESSE 3dr, 19/03/2003, cd player driver airbag power steering immobiliser, red, £3664 miles, £4290, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

FOCUS, 2.0 TDCI TITANIUM 5dr [Euro 4] (2005 - 2007), 08/06/2007, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 8879 miles, £13999, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, CDI EXECUTIVE, 2005, trim: leather engine size: 2200 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, grey, 33000 miles, £11995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

CR-V - 2.0 I-VTEC SE SPORT 5dr, 847649, honda cr-v 2.0 i-vtec se sport 5dr honda honda ashford drake & fletcher silver, 2004, 43969 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £3250, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

JAZZ, - 1.4I-DSI SE 5dr, 984649, honda jazz 1.4i-dsi se 5dr honda honda ashford drake & fletcher blue, 2005, 23776 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £7990, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

S-TYPE, 3.0 V6 SE, 2001, central locking front electric windows air conditioning power steering drivers airbag alloy wheels immobiliser, star silver, 53000 miles, £5000, A1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.0 V6 SE, 2002, silver, 42000 miles, £6995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

KIA

PICANTO, 1.0 GS Hatchback 5dr, 05/2005, central locking electric windows pas was £4495 now £4295, silver, 19,000 miles, £4295, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 2.5D STATION WAGON, d498ey, tow pack, 4x4, 7 seater, genuine 80,000 miles, road tax is £185 per year on this vehicle, green, £4995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323F, SE, 2000, silver, 41000 miles, £3995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

RX8, - 231PS, 987649, 2003, 30723 miles, manual, petrol, 4 doors, 2 previous owners, red, £10495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

MITSUBISHI L 200, 09 2006, 2.5 d tdi 4 life 4x4 pick up air /con 9,000 miles day cab met blue, £9995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

L200, WARRIOR, iV5rkj, immobiliser, black, 17500 miles, £9994, SMC Mitsubishi Erith, Erith, 0844 5762449 (TRADE)

LANCER, 1.8 GS3 4dr CVT, iV0Brl, 1000 miles, £15994, SMC Mitsubishi Erith, Erith, 0844 5762449 (TRADE)

NISSAN PRIMASTAR 2700 SE, 092006, 1.9 dci 100 swb elec windows 6 speed cd blue 5,000 miles as new, £9695, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

ALMERIA, 1.5 S 5dr, 2004, 1.5 s 5dr hatch, gold, 30275 miles, £4995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

MICRA, Celebration Ltd Edn, 2000, celebration special editions; manual 3 door; green, body coloured bumpers; driver's airbag; folding rear seats; front head restraints; immobiliser; isofix child seat anchor points; cassette radio; pas; fish; recent servicing/low mot; low insurance; great condition; green, 29900 miles, £1650, Folkestone, 01303 240796 (PRIVATE)

PEUGEOT

PEUGEOT EXPERT 815, 09 2005, 1.9d 3 seats twin doors 40,000 miles lined met silver, £6795, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT EXPERT 815, 11 2005, 1.9 d white 3 seats twin doors cd 51,000 miles fish, £5995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

106, XN 3dr, 438461, cloth upholstery, rear wash/wipe, air bag, radio cassette, red, 72000 miles, £1299, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

307, 2.0 CC, 2005, trim: leather engine size: 2000 transmission: manual no. of doors: 2, asgen blue, 30000 miles, £10495, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

PORSCHE

911 CARRERA 4, 2002, meridian silver with blue leather, 46000 miles, £29950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

911 TURBO, 3.6 manual, 2003, black metallic with black leather, 17800 miles, £49950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CAYMAN, 3.4 S 2dr, 3.4 s 2dr coupe, 26000 miles, £33995, Wilmoth's Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

RENAULT

RENAULT KANGOO SL17 70 +, 01 2006, 1.5 dci side door met silver elec pack 41,000 miles fish manufacturers warranty, £4975, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

RENAULT TRAFFIC T1100, 04 1996, 1.9d swb mot aug 2003 no vat, 0 miles, £750, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CLIO, 1.4 16V DYNAMIQUE 3dr, 26/06/2006, cd player driver airbag power steering electric windows, black, 18562 miles, £6999, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

MEGANE, MONACO, 2000, new power hood, leather upholstery, radio, 6 cd player, elec windows, air con, air bags, reluctant sale, vgc, black, 61000 miles, £3400, kent, 01303 863644 (PRIVATE)

MEGANE, SPORT 225, 2005, trim: leather engine size: 2000 transmission: manual no. of doors: 3, extreme orange, 20400 miles, £11995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

SCENIC, DYNAMIQUE 1.6, 2006, trim: cloth engine size: 1600 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, flame red, 9100 miles, £8995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

ROVER

200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

SAAB

9-3 VECTRA, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 1900 transmission: automatic no. of doors: 5, pearl black, 34700 miles, £12795, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

9000, 2.3 CDE Saloon 4d 2290cc, auto, n, very rare auto saab 9000 griffin, very fast for your very clean immaculate for year, green, 100k miles, £1398.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

SEAT

ALTEA, 2.0 TDI SPORT 5dr DSG, 10/01/2006, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 23475 miles, £9490, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

IBIZA, 1.2 Ref Hatchback 3dr, 57/2007, pas electric windows remote c/clocking, black, 3,000 miles, £7495, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

LEON, 2006, luna grey, 13156 miles, £12495, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

LEON, 1.9TDI STYLANCE Hatchback 5dr, 08/2008, climate control cruise control alloy wheels rear parking sensors & much more!!!, black magic, 1,000 miles, £14,445, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

SMART

FORTWO, PURE 61, 2006, white black with grey, 19000 miles, £4995, IJM Motors, Strood, 01634 296688 (TRADE)

SUBARU

FORESTER, - XT TURBO, 1040649, subaru forester xt turbo honda honda maidstone drake & fletcher gold, 2004, 69000 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 2 previous owners, £6999, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

IMPREZA, WRX TURBO, 2004, red, 38000 miles, £10995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

SUZUKI

ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 54/2005, pas central locking electric windows, bright red, 15,000 miles, £3895, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

JIMNY, 1.3 MODE 4X4 3dr, 54/2004, leather seats alloy wheels electric windows central locking, blue & silver, 39,500 miles, £4995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

SWIFT, 1.5 GLX Hatchback 5dr, 105/2005, alloy wheels keyless entry fog lights a/con pas elec windows was £3995 now £2695, silver, 32,000 miles, £6995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

AVENSIS, 1.8 VVTI GS 4dr (2000 - 2003), 28/03/2002, driver airbag power steering electric windows, red, 36788 miles, £4490, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

CELICA, VVTI, 2006, red, 20000 miles, £11495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

MR2, 2.0, 369461, full leather, power steering, central locking, abs, air bag, electric windows, twin sunroofs, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, stereo, electric mirrors, uk supplied, 15" alloys, 73000 miles, £4499, Marams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

RAV-4, 2.0 GX 5dr Auto, ay02fd, abs, air bag, twin air bags, alarm, air conditioning, electric front windows, electric windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, crystal silver, 39000 miles, £7999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

YARIS, COLOUR 1, g55nhv, finished in silver with interior, silver, 32000 miles, £5795, Callyns Tunbridge Wells, Maidstone, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

VAUXHALL COMB 2000, 05 2006, 1.7 cdti crew van 5 seats twin side doors dark blue cd elec rear w/lamps, alloy wheels, fish, 0 miles, £5995, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL COMBO 2000, 06 2004, 1.7 dci ex bgas blue side door air con elec windows shelled 22,000 miles fish, £4250, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL VIVARO 2700, 10 2005, 1.9 dci swb side door lined white 40,000 miles fish, £6495, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

ASTRA, - 1.6i 16V BREEZE 5dr, 105/2005, alloy wheels keyless entry fog lights a/con pas elec windows was £3995 now £2695, silver, 32,000 miles, £6995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2007, black, 13401 miles, £15495, WJ King Vauxhall, Welling, 020 8303 1234 (TRADE)

ASTRA, 2003, ultra blue, 35824 miles, £4495, WJ King Vauxhall, Swanley, 01222 662880 (TRADE)

Corsa, VXR TURB, g0707y, finished in black with interior, black, 18000 miles, £12000, Callyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

Tiga Exclusive Red, 2007, cd player alloy wheels central locking approved driver's airbag power steering mileage verified history check, metro blue, 11200 miles, £11995, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

VECTRA, - 2.0 SRI 5dr, 826649, vauxhall vectra 2.0 sri 5dr mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher black, 2006, 18000 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, black, £9989, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

VOLKSWAGEN

GOLF, 2.0 AVANTGARDE CABRIOLET 2d 1984cc, r, lovely car, purple, 75,000 miles, £3100.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

GOLF, 2.8 VR6, 1998, black, 93000 miles, £2500, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

POL0, 1.2 E 55 3dr, ad07dpy, abs, air bag, twin air bags, central locking, cd player, rear wash/wipe, diamond black, 7489 miles, £6499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

VOLVO

C70, 2.3 T5 GT 2dr Auto, oy52hp, abs, air bag, side air bags, alarm, traction control, climate control, cruise control, heated seats, electric front windows, multi-disc cd player, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, headlamp wash/wipe, alloy wheels, silver, £9621 miles, £9999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

S40, SE, 2005, black metallic, 51000 miles, £8495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

S60, S60 D5 SE, ov52 fkd, rear head-rests, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, full leather, electric seats, electric windows, electric mirrors, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cruise control, traction control, air conditioning, climate control, cd player, radio, trip computer, twin air bags, curtain airbags, abs, power steering, auto-dip rearview, alloy wheels, blue, 64900 miles, £7495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

V50, 1.8 S, 10003813074, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, folding rear seats, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, dual climate zones, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, metallic blue, 74000 miles, £7990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

V70 D5 S, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, centre armrest, head restraints, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, rear armrest, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, stability control, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, dual climate zones, cd player, radio, alloy wheels, black, 68000 miles, £11490, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

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Kent Highway Services



For information and advice on travelling in Kent, go to page 16.

For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to page 46.

Suzuki 'insures' buyer pulling power on new 750 machine

SUZUKI has ensured its powerful new 2008 GSX-R750 is far more accessible than expected, by offering exclusive cut-price insurance via Express Insurance.

It is claimed that, in many cases, the new machine qualifies for rates even lower than those quoted on rival manufacturers' 600cc machines.

Suzuki GB's Paul de Lusignan said: "With Express Insurance we have been able to remove the only real obstacle to those contemplating a 750 over a 600. In some cases there was a saving of nearly £100, making the GSX-R750 a truly cost-effective option, too."

Highly competitive rates are also offered on the new GSX-R600 model.



TESTING TIMES: New campaign aimed at raising awareness of changes to bike tests

Now's the time to take the test

by
STEVELOADER



NEW and more complex testing for a full motorcycle licence is expected to fuel a rush of people keen to pass before the changes arrive in October.

The trade's Motor Cycle Industry Association (MCIA) has launched a 'Now's the Time' campaign to raise awareness of the test changes, which include theory, compulsory basic tests (CBT), full tests and direct access tests.

There are typically around 80,000 powered two-wheeler (PTW) test applications with more than 50,000 passes annually, but 2007 saw an increase and the MCIA expects a further hike in 2008 as would-be riders scramble to beat the new arrangements driven by new EU directives.

Sternier

Post-October, as well as facing a sterner test, applicants can also expect longer waiting times and dearer testing. There will also be fewer test centres – down from about 200 to just 60.

Those who already have a motorcycle CBT certificate and people looking to get into biking for the first time, are being urged by the MCIA not to delay and it has launched a web site to provide guidance: www.takeyourtestnow.com.

The MCIA's Craig Carey-Clinch said: "PTW riders are probably already our best-trained

road users, and the new test elements will help riders understand more about the capabilities of their machines, but there is concern about the additional expense of training and taking tests, and that the number of test centres around the country is being slashed.

"The last time major changes to test procedures were brought in back in 1997, we saw a huge rise in test applications as people tried to beat the deadline. We expect history to repeat itself. For these and many other reasons, now's the time to take your bike test."

National Motorcycle Week (14-20 July), with Ride to Work Day on 16 July, will also highlight the campaign and the benefits of bikes, especially with the higher cost of living and motoring and public transport's failure to bridge the gap.

Mr Carey-Clinch added: "PTWs are part of the solution to road congestion. They take up minimal space and journey times can easily be up to 60 per cent quicker than in a car."

"They are not hit with congestion charges and are easy or cheap to park. Running costs are low and so are CO2 emissions."

"Above all, they are fun to ride and instil a sense of freedom that a car and public transport can never offer. There's never been a better time to get on a bike."

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New Yamaha's big bike appeal

YAMAHA predicts a rush for the 'big bike style' of its newly-arrived YZF-R125.

The four-stroke, fuel-injected 125cc steals most of its design cues from the larger YZF-R6 and Yamaha UK marketing chief Simon Belton said: "Those of us who have been riding a while really wish that we had

had the YZF-R125 to start our riding careers on. The size of the bike really adds to the riding experience and creates a secure and comfortable feeling when riding the bike, essential for new riders."

The Yamaha YZF-R125 is available in blue, white, yellow and black, priced at £2,999.



Bike Buying tips

- Take your prospective purchase for a test ride.
- Finance – despite rising rates, there are still cheap deals, so shop around.
- Interest free credit – good if you can get it, but watch for introductory offers where the APR and payments soar after the 'honeymoon' period.
- Free insurance – check that any no-claims bonus can be transferred after the first free year.
- Specification – if you pay top price, make sure

you are getting the latest model. Buying an old specification new bike could save as much as 20 per cent, but it will be worth considerably less when you sell.

- Pre-registration – a 'pre-reg' can be a good buy but should be brand new with delivery mileage only – not an ex-demonstrator that may have been 'thrashed'.
- Free lessons – nice if you are a beginner but check the course credentials.
- Extras – check that the price you pay includes any additional security features, road tax, number plates and fuel.

Harley-Davidson 'icon' drives custom sector



CUSTOM bikes continue to be one of the sectors driving the bike market, with classic machines like this Harley-Davidson Fat Boy acting as the blueprint for many wannabe machines from Far East manufacturers.

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SPONSORS



When the crunch eases, county is ready to rebound

KENT may be bucking the business trend in the South East.

While it's gloom and doom in the rest of the region there are some real, concrete signs that the Garden of England can fight it out.

According to businesspeople in firms and organisations strategically placed to take an overview, our historically resilient county is more than capable of meeting the challenge.

The news comes after the Bank of England said the worst of the global credit squeeze could be over. Even allowing for a Pollyanna effect in the face of adversity, that's a "yes!" for business.

Confederation of British Industry regional director Malcolm Hyde said: "The South East story is of falling demand, shrinking output and declining jobs."

However, the CBI's latest business trends survey shows the weak pound against the euro helped South East manufacturers export more – and lead to some positive expectations for total new orders over the next three months – which is good news for Kent.

Companies are queuing to invest in Kent, tourist numbers are still surging ahead, and there has been some

strong muscle-flexing in the manufacturing and services sectors.

Paul Wookey, chief executive of Locate in Kent, said: "We are continuing to receive a good flow of inquiries from companies interested in investing in the county."

"There is no indication that any of the county's major commercial developers are planning to delay projects."

"With its cost-effective commercial properties, the launch of high-speed rail connections to London from next year and continued investment in infrastructure, Kent will be in a prime position when the markets rebound."

Mr Wookey underlined the recent £7.5 million takeover of Corgi models by Margate-based Hornby as showing "confidence in the county's economy".

South East chartered accountancy group Wilkins Kennedy has established a major foothold in Kent – a big vote of confidence in the future – by merging with Ashford-based Finn-Kelcey and Chapman, bringing its total number of offices to 13, the only other one in Kent being in Orpington.

Meanwhile, the £2 billion-plus London Array, the world's largest off-

shore wind farm planned for north Kent, still looks to be on course. Shell's one-third stake, which it put up for grabs, is almost certain to be snapped up by one or both of the other two partners, German-owned E.ON and Danish-owned DONG Energy, or another party.

A further announcement is expected later this month about plans for Chinese business to come to Manston Business Park, which could create thousands of jobs. I get the strong impression it will be positive news.

Latest research by Visit Kent shows that during 2006 the tourism industry accounted for £2.5 billion – a rise of more than 13 per cent compared with 2003. Some £148.5 million was invested in developments related to tourism, and the industry made up seven per cent of the county's workforce, a rise of 2.2 per cent on 2003.

Maidstone-based Medway Travel, which is celebrating its 15th anniversary, says business is booming.

Paul Julius, owner and founder, said: "Our clients include some 200 companies located throughout the UK, and we have just been selected to serve a central London company spending some £1 million a year on travel – which gave us a timely additional reason to celebrate."



NEW RANGE: Alex White and Clare Hume with jewellery

The glittering prize

SPARKLING Tenterden-based partners Alex White and Clare Hume have spent the winter creating a new range of jewellery and their White Hume brand is earning a growing following.

Their pieces are often recognised by a distinctive finish created during the heating process.

Ms White said: "The process creates an organic texture on the surface, making each piece unique."

The pair are old friends and have been in business for four years and are now venturing into party selling.

Ms White said: "Last year we

took on a commission for the Matthew Marks Gallery in New York, reproducing internationally renowned artist Gary Hume's sculptures as 18-carat gold, limited edition pendants."

Each piece is hallmarked with the London Assay office marks and bears the WH stamp. The range includes pendants, rings, bracelets, bangles, cufflinks, tiaras, spoons, keyrings and pet tags.

Stockists include Bluemoon Gallery, Tunbridge Wells; Easton Rooms Gallery, Rye; The Craft Shop, Cranbrook; Forrest, Tenterden; Village Life, Goudhurst; and Handmade Frames, Rolvenden.

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Philatelic rarity rises to occasion for Airbus flight

FOLKESTONE-BASED philatelic company Buckingham Covers has created a new and rare A380 commemorative cover featuring the first A380 jet passenger flight to London.

It's rare because it has been flown on the first A380 passenger flight from Sydney to Singapore, having been postmarked in Australia and again in Singapore on the reverse.

It was then flown again on the jet's first passenger flight from Singapore to London and postmarked in Heathrow on the day of the flight. To add to its value, it was given a cachet – rubber stamp – on both flights.

It was a limited edition of just 114 world-wide. And they should be a good bet for increasing in value, if another cover it produced linked with the A380 last year is anything to go by.

Buckingham Covers was selected by Airbus to create an A380 cover marking its test flight to Filton and these were the first ever covers flown on the jet. They've already doubled in value to £29.95 this year.

The firm is one of the world leaders in first day and commemorative covers, with covers designed and handmade by the company. It has a huge following among collectors and was a Shephway Business Awards 2008 finalist.

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Helping icon MV make its marque

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

A MAJOR new business coup for Maidstone-based WSK Marketing Communications has put it on the starting grid to do the PR and marketing for the MV Agusta British Superbike team, run by STP Motorsport.

Helping to put the world-famous motorcycle back on the top step of the podium is just part of the challenge because with some 270 Grand Prix wins and 75 world championships to its name, the MV Agusta brand is almost without equal in its world.

But, although it is 32 years since the likes of Giacomo Agostini, John Surtees and Mike Hailwood last rode an MV Agusta in anger on the racetrack, the historic Italian marque is now making a dramatic return to top-flight racing and has entered the British Superbike Championship.

As a relatively low-volume maker of motorcycles when compared with Japanese rivals, MV Agusta is unable to support the team financially, so US-rooted Team STP Motorsport has asked WSK to raise the team's profile and help find commercial partners as sponsors.

Jon Strike, STP motorsport's team principal, said: "WSK came highly recommended to us. They have worked closely with the team and developed a range of marketing initiatives aimed at potential partners.

"Being a relatively new team we are starting from scratch and the speed at which they have got to grips with the way we work has been impressive to say the least."

And Nigel Jones, director of WSK, said: "As a motorcyclist myself, I appreciate the significance of the return of MV Agusta to racing at this level of competition. The British Superbike Championship is recognised as one of the major racing series in the world



LEAN MACHINE: Ex-MotoGP star Chris Burns aboard the iconic MV Agusta F4 1000

and to be involved in that with MV Agusta and STP Motorsport is a privilege."

The level of sponsorship could vary from, for example, about £5,000 for the company name to go on the bike and some hospitality rights to, say, £100,000 to £150,000 which could give a company the full-blown team title name. Anything in between would be pro-rata.

Mr Jones said: "While gaining exposure for the team is our main role, we also want to introduce commercial partners who can benefit from the high profile that motorcycle racing, and the live television coverage, can

bring. The chance to bring clients to watch racing at this level and see behind the scenes should be of interest to a lot of companies. It is a great opportunity for networking."

WSK will work closely with Warwick Nowland, a two-time world endurance motorcycle champion, who has been drafted in as team manager.

The team will be at Brands Hatch this weekend for the re-running of the postponed round of the British Superbike Championship. For sponsorship details, contact Mr Jones on 01622 840011 or email owl@wskmarketingcommunications.com



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Why not nominate the company's boss?

THE hunt is on for the South East Directors of the Year 2008 and Kent firms are being urged to take part.

The prestigious awards, organised by the Institute of Directors, recognise the outstanding leadership and

success of the South East's most talented company directors. IoD regional director Rodger Broad said: "If you know of a dynamic director who deserves such an accolade, go to www.iod.com/south/awards and

nominate them. They don't have to be IoD members as we are simply seeking to recognise outstanding leadership."

The awards are sponsored by PricewaterhouseCoopers and the

categories remain the same: for directors of businesses with a turnover of more than £25 million, £5 million to £24.99 million and up to £4.99 million. Two special awards are for under 42-year-old directors;

more than £5 million and up to £4.99 million. The closing date for nominations is June 27. The winners will be announced at an Oscars-style dinner at the IoD's London HQ on November 25.

Gardening excellence in field of organics

NEW operator of Yalding Organic Gardens, Maro Foods, says it plans to develop the gardens into a centre of excellence for sustainable organic gardening.

The gardens will offer not only tours but also a well-stocked shop and café, with local and seasonal produce being the theme.

The centre will also run a range of educational courses for gardening, food production and cooking, all with an organic flavour.

Owners the Congelow Educational Organic Trust said: "Their plans to expand and develop the gardens impressed the trustees and this was supported by their track record in developing their business to be one of the leading lights in local produce in the area."

Maro, which owns The Old Dairy at Sandwich, is hoping to reopen the gardens and centre to the public on May 24. Previous operator Garden Organics withdrew from the site earlier this month after deciding it was not economically viable to continue.

Consider all your options and consult the experts

APPROACHING your existing bank is not necessarily the best strategy when you need finance.

It makes better sense to see what the whole market is offering before you make a decision on what is probably a key move.

Independent CFS commercial finance broker, based in Dover and Maidstone, says that businesses need to search the finance market for the right package – lending is not limited to the main high street lenders.

The market continues to grow with new lenders entering the market providing new services, some of which are only available through the intermediary market.

Independent CFS principals Marcus Abbott and Andrew Craddock, who between them have more than 50 years' experience as commercial bankers, say that businesses need expert advice to find the right package.

Don't give up on buy-to-let, say experts

SOME buy-to-let landlords may feel it is time to hand the keys back to the bank with house prices and rental income falling and credit tightening – but don't do it unless you have to, according to the experts.

Letting and property management agency Ashton Burkinshaw says many experts agree that there's a difficult ride ahead, but there is disagreement as to whether buy-to-let will drag the rest of the market down, which the doom merchants are predicting.

The firm said: "Many analysts argue that most investors will hang on to their portfolios. They point out that even if prices fall by six per cent over the next 18 months, investors who bought in 2002 would still be sitting on a gain of 50 per cent."

"Other optimists point out that the withdrawal of mortgages over 75 per cent for first-time buyers means that many people will be forced to rent."

"And with demographic factors influencing activity and growth in the lettings sector, it is predicted the buy-to-let market should dip but not crash."

But the firm said falling property values are causing headaches for investors who were in it for a quick return, and the temptation for landlords to cut their losses and sell is strong. But there are potentially huge benefits in making your portfolio work harder.

Here are some things you can do to make BtL pay: Are you charging market rent? Demand for rented properties is on the increase, with average rents across the country at their highest for a decade.

Claim all your tax allowances. Make sure you are claiming tax relief against rental income for most of your running expenses, including repairs, agents' fees and utility bills you pay, as well as a general allowance of 10 per cent of rental income for wear and tear.

Make the most of mortgage tax relief. To reduce your tax bill on rental income, offset mortgage interest against this income. You may also get more relief if you remortgage your BtL property if you are able to.

Shop around for the best mortgage deals and decide whether it would be best to have one with percentage fees or high fixed rates.

Look out for a bargain. Falling property prices in some areas have resulted in lower than market values, particularly on reposessed properties.

Get rid of underperforming assets. Be ruthless and sell any property that is not performing well. One advantage is that you may save on capital gains tax since the new 18 per cent flat rate was introduced.

Ashton Burkinshaw has offices in Chatham, Gravesend, Maidstone, Sevenoaks, Swanley, Tenterden, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells.

Networking opportunity with Sheps

A RARE opportunity for a tutored tour and tasting at Britain's oldest brewer is on offer to business people in Kent as part of the Institute of Directors' Networking Pub Hub event.

Jonathan Neame, chief executive of Shepherd Neame, will be giving a personal tour of Sheps' Faversham brewery on Wednesday, May 21.

Chairman of IoD Kent Frazer Thompson said: "Pub Hub events are always popular and this one is going to be very special."

Tickets cost £15 for IoD members and £25 for non-members. To book, call 01732 849570 or e-mail iod.kent@iod.com

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Contest to prove small is beautiful

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

RURAL shopkeepers are in the news this week as for the first time for many years there's a competition to find the Kent Rural Community Retailer of the Year – with the nation's biggest small business interest group warning that rural retailers continue to be under threat.

The 2008 retailer competition is being run by Kent Action for Rural Retailers (KARR) which is part of Action with Communities in Rural Kent. The aim is to raise the profile of village shops, post offices or farm shops both to local communities and at county and regional level.

Sean Carter, rural retail advisor, said: "This is not about being the biggest or smartest retailer but about being part of the community."

"Naturally there are minimum hygiene standards and any shop that doesn't meet this standard will have less of a chance of winning than those with a high standard."

"However, we are trying to create a

level playing field where all applicants have a chance to win."

During this month a shortlist will be drawn up and in July judges from KARR will visit the six shops which have been shortlisted.

On Monday, September 1, there will be a finals night, to be held alongside the Village of the Year competition.

This is already an established event and is covered by Radio Kent and other media. The winner will get a prize plus a great deal of publicity. There will also be prizes for runners-up.

Meantime, the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) which has many members in Kent, said small, independent shops have been let down by the Competition Commission in its inquiry into the grocery sector.

It said that despite a committee of MPs estimating that 2,000 small shops are going out of business each year, the commission failed to come up with any answers that would halt the decline.

Throughout the two-year investigation, says the FSB, it has been dismayed that the commission failed to consider the impact of supermarkets on independent retailing.

So the FSB has set up its wide-ranging Keep Trade Local campaign to raise awareness of the value that small, independent retailers provide

to consumers.

This includes local products, more personal service and speciality goods not available in supermarkets.

Andrew Aves, its Kent and Medway regional organiser, said: "During the course of three investigations in seven years the commission has consistently failed to understand the value to consumers of small independent shops. This latest inquiry has again missed the point."

"The remit of this inquiry was far too narrow. Supermarkets are forcing small shops out of business in many areas of retailing, not just groceries."

"Important issues such as the travesty of almost limitless free parking at out-of-town supermarkets while independent high street shops face ever-more stringent parking restrictions were not even considered."

"People up and down the county can see that we are losing our small shops, but this report does little to solve the problem."

"We are in danger of sleepwalking into the death of our high streets. The FSB has been left with no alternative but to campaign across the country and raise political awareness. It is now up to our elected representatives to step in and prevent disaster."

It has set up a Keep Trade Local Petition on the Number 10 website, which is available at <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/keeptradelocal/>

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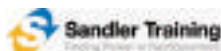
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Shoppers can find a farmers' market with the click of a mouse

PEOPLE wanting to shop at farmers' markets across Kent now have access to a website with all the details they need: www.kentfarmers-markets.org.uk

It comes from the newly-launched Kent Farmers' Market Association, whose chairman Benjamin Dent said: "We wanted to make it easier to shop at the markets so we have begun by pulling together details of everyone's nearest markets."

The association is an initiative of the managers of the county's 33 farmers' markets. Mostly run by volunteers, there are already nearly 900 markets a year.

Mr Dent said: "The major trend in food shopping is about wanting products which are healthier, greener and fairly traded."

"At farmers' markets, shoppers can

buy fresh, quality, local products direct from the producer."

"You are supporting the environment, animal welfare and Kent's economy and countryside, too."

The launch was held at Shipbourne Farmers' Market, which was a finalist in the Best Farmers' Market category of this year's Radio 4 Food and Farming Awards.

Association vice-chairman Bob Taylor, who manages the Shipbourne Farmers' Market, said: "Our markets offer good value."

"Since products are bought direct, there are no middlemen, shareholders or distribution costs. Locally produced food sold at farmers' markets is usually cheaper, certainly fresher and often better quality."

Mr Dent, who also manages Penshurst Farmers' Market, added:

"While I am delighted to see the increased sales in Fair Trade products, we need to get a fair deal for Kent's farmers, too, and farmers' markets and farm shops do just that."

"A profitable farming industry offers the best protection for the countryside."

The association is now the largest county grouping of farmers' markets in the UK.

The website has a diary page which can send automatic email reminders about shoppers' nearest markets and also includes advice on which foods are in season, as well as listing special events and other news.

You can find farmers' markets from somewhere rural without a shop, for example, Egerton (10 stalls, weekly), to large town/city centres, for example, Rochester (30 stalls, monthly).

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Like them or not, HIPs are part of the process



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

When the Government created Home Information Packs (HIPs) the aim was to speed up the house-buying process. Now, according to Gullands, one of the county's leading solicitors, almost everyone outside Government circles considers HIPs an expensive waste of time that lengthens the process rather than speeding it up.

Stephen Tomlinson, the senior partner, leads the firm's residential conveyancing department and also provides HIPs documents. What is a HIP and is it of any value? Richard Parsons, KOS Media's business publisher, asked Stephen what he thought.



Q What is a HIP?

A A HIP is a legal document and now forms the initial step in the whole legal process of selling your home.

It is a collection of various pieces of information about your property, mostly legal in nature, which tells the buyer more about the property. It contains a copy of the home's title deeds, local searches and a drainage search.

It also contains an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) which gives the home a rating between A-G, similar to the ratings of most kitchen appliances. A HIP has to be available before a property is marketed.

Q Who provides a HIP?

A Because of the legal nature of a HIP, we in the legal profession feel it is vitally important that your solicitor provides it for you. As estate agents are normally the first port of call for anyone wishing to sell their home, they will offer to provide the service.

They will also offer to arrange the conveyancing of the property. People should appreciate that they still have the choice to instruct their own conveyancer to handle the most important financial transaction of their lives.

Q But isn't letting an estate agent handle it all a cheaper option?

A Not necessarily so. In fact, Gullands are already employed by some estate agents

to handle the production of HIPs for them.

I convened a meeting of Maidstone solicitors and we are now working on an awareness campaign aimed at making sure that home sellers realise that they can be represented by a lawyer of their own choosing and are aware that solicitors can produce the HIP and EPC.

Some larger estate agents recommend clients to use "conveyancing factories", often situated at the other end of the country.

It can be the case that when an agent refers a potential client to the "factory", a commission is paid, so it becomes a money-making exercise for the agent.

We want to make sure that our clients are fully aware of this. They need to know that HIPs are not the sole prerogative of estate agents.

They can be produced by solicitors and at a very competitive cost. When you deal with a solicitor, you meet and know the person who is responsible for your con-

veyancing and production of a HIP. When your business is handled by a 'factory' your case is 'computerised' and it is like dealing with a call centre.

A team handles your transaction as well as hundreds of others, instead of a dedicated person and the persons dealing with the day-to-day work do not necessarily even have legal qualifications.

Q Does the seller hold the HIP?

A At Gullands we provide the seller with the HIP which can be transmitted electronically initially, followed by a CD-Rom and a hard copy, if required. Your estate agent will have a copy which can then be made available to interested buyers.

Q How long does a HIP remain an effective legal document?

A It is effective for one year (subject to certain exceptions).

Q How much does a HIP cost?

A The cost varies, but at Gullands, we charge £289.08 for a three-bedroom house, £312.58 for a four-bedroom house and £336.08 for a five-bedroom house.

Beware of estate agents who claim to offer free HIPs. Remember, there is no such thing as a free lunch. Also, if you change agents you may have to have a new HIP.

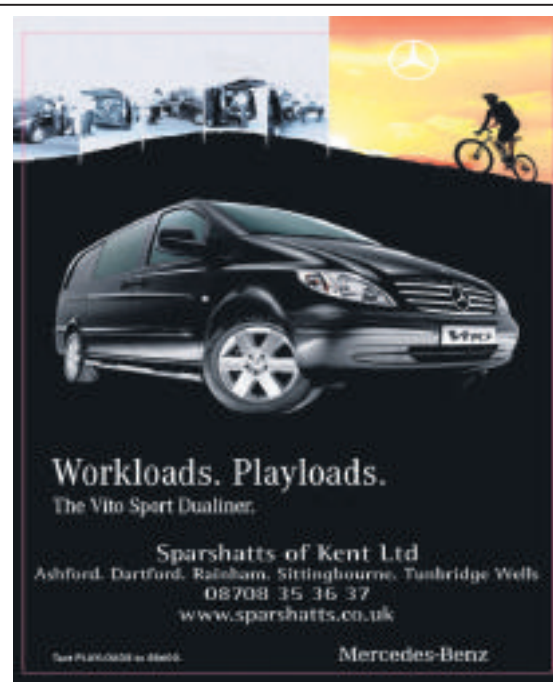
Q Are HIPs here for ever more?

A It remains to be seen. We know that the Conservatives have

indicated they will get rid of them if they form the next government.

The Law Society, National Association of Estate Agents and Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors have all stated they are a waste of time and money, and early indications are that very few people ask for them, read them, or rely upon them or have any interest in them.

It is just an extra step in the house-buying process and it most definitely does not speed up the transaction.



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Trust makes it nine out of 10 at Eureka

QUADRANT Estates has announced that the Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust is relocating its provider offices to Eureka Park in Ashford.

The new tenants will occupy both units 110 and 120, totalling 20,832 sq ft, marking the completion of yet another successful letting at Northdown, the 51,000 sq ft first phase development at Eureka.

The trust will take a 15-year lease with a break at the 10th year and have agreed an initial passing rent of £17.25 per sq ft.

The move will allow the trust to consolidate some of its east Kent directorates under one roof.

There is now only one remaining unit at Northdown, the 10-unit office village.

The success of the scheme, completed last summer, has led to Quadrant Estates working up plans for the next phase which will be known as Northdown 2.

Tristram Gethin, director at Quadrant Estates, the development company behind Eureka Park said: "This letting is a great start to the

year for Eureka, with nine units out of 10 being occupied in the last nine months since completion.

"The arrival of Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust confirms our confidence in the Ashford market."

David Ambrose, head of sites and facilities for the health trust, said: "We are delighted to be moving our offices to the superb environment of Eureka Park and are looking forward to working from these excellent offices."

Quadrant Estates was represented by Bidwells, Martine Waghorn and Knight Frank.



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Budget not so pretty vacant



**SERIOUS BLOW: Will
Hinckley of Humberts**

A LEADING Kent commercial property expert says the last Budget has delivered another blow to the industry.

Will Hinckley, of Humberts commercial team in Canterbury, says the end to unlimited rate relief on empty industrial property and changes to reliefs on other forms of commercial property was already set to be a blow.

But the Government is now introducing the measure six months ahead of schedule. He said: "The Government has packaged this as a measure to 'encourage empty properties back into use', but the removal of empty rate relief has been denounced as a counter-productive pipe dream and another stealth tax."

"Instead of the clock ticking on empty properties from April 1 – so the removal of the relief would become effective on October 1 – the Government has confirmed that industrial properties which have already been empty for six months or shops and offices for three months will be

hit with their rate bills immediately from April 1."

Ambiguities and lack of clarification had led to the belief that the clock would have reset on April 1, the date the legislation comes into force, he said.

"For an already troubled industry, this is a serious blow, particularly to landlords already struggling to manage the financial burden of empty premises."

"The British Property Federation had warned the industry to budget for a £1 billion tax hit, and this will now be felt six months early."

He says the industry lobby has argued long and hard that the Government's belief that reducing tax relief will encourage landlords to market empty premises and drive them back into use is misplaced.

The legislation will also have a significant impact on new speculative development as developers will be unwilling to build new office and industrial buildings until they have secured a purchaser or tenant for fear of having to pay rates on empty buildings.

"Only time will tell what the impact will be on local commercial property stock, but landlords will need to become much more flexible," said Mr Hinckley.

"They will need to look at every means available to keep properties occupied and short-term lettings will potentially assist in creating three-month empty rate relief periods."

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A hand-picked pool of experts

By **TONY PATEY**

Business Editor

TOP Kent private sector expertise is being used to boost the support and advice available to anyone who wants to start, maintain and grow a business.

Business Link has head-hunted some 20 company leaders to set up a new advisory panel that will help guide it and ensure its services best meet the needs of the county's business community.

The group will also contribute to policy and strategy affecting small and medium-sized businesses at local, regional and national levels.

Its work will complement and supplement the expertise provided by the formal Business Link board, which itself is composed of leading Kent business people.

Members were hand-picked and invited to join by Business Link chairman Robert Clewley, and are involved in a broad range of industries.

Mr Clewley said: "We were determined to assemble a panel that reflects the diversity of Kent's business community, whether in terms of

geography, industry sector, number of employees, length of time trading or the challenges they face. Our ongoing market research and our day-to-day contact with our customers gives us an overview of the issues facing Kent's business community, but the feedback from the advisory group will give us a much deeper insight into the experiences of local companies.

"As active business people operating at the coal-face of commercial life, who have themselves made use of Business Link services, the members will be well placed to tell us what we are doing well, how we can improve, and suggest ways in which we can tailor our services to the best possible effect."

Among the members is Suzanne Wood, general manager of Sarena Manufacturing, a Gillingham-based water storage tank maker with 37 employees. She said: "It is only by consulting widely with all sectors of the economy that an organisation such as Business Link can know how best to help Kent businesses."

Business Link exists to help anyone thinking of starting a business; to help small and medium-sized businesses to grow; and to help businesses deal with problems, challenges and opportunities.

In the last year it has provided support to more than 4,000 people con-

sidering starting a business and to 1,500 who actually started.

The Business Link service in Kent and Medway is under the umbrella of Business Support Kent Community Interest Company.

For more information, visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/southeast or call 0845 600 9006.

A RECENT report by the Office for National Statistics on pension trends contains some concerning data.

The report shows that 62 per cent of pensioner couples have total pension income of less than £10,000 per annum. Half of single pensioners have less than £6,000.

Worryingly, 40 per cent of people receiving a private pension get less than £1,000 per annum and the average is just £2,115. Some 39 per cent of the working population contribute towards a private pension, but up to 53 per cent want to retire before 65.

Half of us have no idea what our retirement income will be and 75 per cent of us expect the income will come from a pension.



By **LIZ RULE**
Pharon Independent
Financial Advisers Ltd

That three quarters of workers think their main source of income will be from pensions and 30 per cent think this will be provided by the State validates the fact that the 40 per cent who are contributing are the only ones taking responsibility for when they will no longer work.

Working out what pension income you will have to live on is the first step to being informed.

MORTGAGE RATES

RT: Rate type R%: Rate percentage L: Loan U: Until
OD: Other details

FIXED

ABBEY

RT: FIXED R%: 5.71% L: 75% U: 02/08/2013
OD: £1,499 ARRANGEMENT

BRISTOL & WEST

RT: FIXED R%: 5.98% L: 75% U: 31/05/2011
OD: £1,000 ARRANGEMENT

ABBEY

RT: FIXED R%: 6.10% L: 75% U: 02/08/2011
OD: £999 ARRANGEMENT

BM SOLUTIONS

RT: FIXED R%: 6.35% L: 75% U: 01/10/2013
OD: £1,000 ARRANGEMENT

OTHER

PRINCIPALITY

RT: DISCOUNTED R%: 5.94% L: 75% U: 2 YEARS
OD: £2,000 ARRANGEMENT

ALLIANCE & LEICESTER

RT: TRACKER R%: 5.99% (BASE RATE + 0.99%)
L: 75% U: 2 YEARS OD: £2,000 ARRANGEMENT

ABBEY

RT: TRACKER R%: 6.02% (BASE RATE + 1.02%)
L: 90% U: 2 YEARS OD: £999 ARRANGEMENT

KENT RELIANCE

RT: DISCOUNTED R%: 6.09% L: 75% U: 2 YEARS OD: £335 ARRANGEMENT

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

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SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£593
LEGAL & GENERAL	£590
PRUDENTIAL	£585
SCOTTISH WIDOWS	£561

MALE AGED 65

CANADA LIFE	£679
NORWICH UNION	£667
STANDARD LIFE	£658
PRUDENTIAL	£656
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£652
LEGAL & GENERAL	£651
SCOTTISH WIDOWS	£624

FEMALE AGED 60

NORWICH UNION	£610
CANADA LIFE	£608
STANDARD LIFE	£581
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£579
LEGAL & GENERAL	£574
PRUDENTIAL	£571
SCOTTISH WIDOWS	£540

FEMALE AGED 65

NORWICH UNION	£666
CANADA LIFE	£659
PRUDENTIAL	£636
STANDARD LIFE	£634
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£629
LEGAL & GENERAL	£627
SCOTTISH WIDOWS	£597

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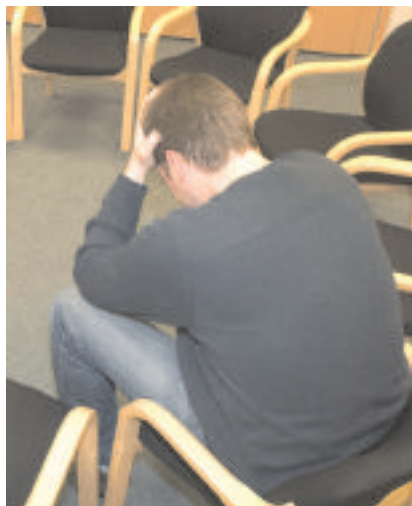
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MCC honour 'Deadly' with presidency

KENT and England cricket legend 'Deadly' Derek Underwood has been named the new president of the MCC.

Underwood, who was president of Kent in 2006, will succeed former England captain Mike Brearley when his term of office ends in September.

The former spin bowler, who played 86 Tests and took 297 wickets for his country with his deceptive left-arm spinners, is delighted with his appointment.

He said: "I am deeply honoured to have been asked to be president of the MCC, which is one of the greatest accolades in cricket."

"I enjoyed a successful playing career with both Kent and England and since my retire-



Picture: Getty Images

KING OF SPIN: Kent cricket giant Derek Underwood is the MCC's next president

ment have remained closely involved with Kent cricket. I look forward immensely to my year in office and contributing to the development of our great game."

Underwood was the leading spin bowler in England for 20 years and since retirement from the professional game has worked in cricket administration.

He began his career in sensational fashion when he became the youngest player to take 100 wickets in a debut season. He would go on to equal the feat nine more times.

In a 24-year county career, he took 1,951 wickets for Kent, making him the third most successful bowler in the club's history.

Introducing his successor, Brearley quoted John Woodcock's description of Derek Shackleton's bowling as applying equally to 'Deadly'.

He said: "Long hops and full tosses were not so much few and far between when he was bowling as almost unknown."

"He was a distinguished cricketer and has since worked hard within cricket administration."

"He is a gentle man, conscientious and considerate, but also tough. It gives me great pleasure to nominate Derek Underwood as president of the MCC for 2008/09."



HOT PURSUIT: Shane Byrne in the lead, followed by Ashford's Leon Camier
Picture: Airwaves Ducati

Shakey's lucky 13 turns into top spot

By TOM HOWARD

A PREMONITION he would win the race after a mistake that saw him drop down to 13th spot, came true for Kent rider Shane 'Shakey' Byrne.

The 32-year-old secured a double victory in two epic battles at Oulton Park last weekend to top the British Superbike Championship by 39 points after just two rounds.

He now moves on to the rescheduled Brands Hatch round this weekend, after heavy snow in April forced the meeting to be abandoned.

Just six days ago, Byrne produced one of the rides of his career at Oulton Park after an uncharacteristic mistake saw him slip down to 13th.

However, after a string of fast lap times, he regained the lead within eight laps after the two leaders, Leon Haslam and Tom Sykes, collided at the chicane.

Byrne said: "I was a bit miffed with myself for making that mistake because it was an easy one really, I should not have let happen. I got my head down and said to myself, 'Let's get going', because I knew the riders were



NUMBER ONE: Byrne savours victory at Oulton Park
Picture: Airwaves Ducati

getting away and I did not want to be left behind.

"After that I set the fastest lap I had done all weekend and just got in a really good rhythm. I thought, 'They're not really getting away, I can catch them up.'"

"Despite the riders falling, I definitely had the pace to overtake and it would only have taken me another lap, I reckon."

"As I was riding round I had a premonition that a couple of the riders would take each other out and I would come through to win

the race. It felt pretty strange when I crossed the line first."

The Sheppey rider has a commanding lead in the championship going into the Brands Hatch meeting after three wins out of four races.

The Airwaves Ducati racer already has pole position for both races today, as he was fastest in the qualifying round in April. Byrne is now determined to give his home crowd a weekend to remember.

He said: "At the moment, victories are all I am thinking about. I have seen how easy it is to make mistakes so am focusing on getting points."

"It will be fantastic to do the double at Brands, which is my home round. I am starting from pole, so I do not have to worry about qualifying and will do whatever it takes to win."

"We were very quick the first time we were there, I just hope we have improved and the weather stays fine."

Kent will also be represented by Ashford born rider Leon Camier, who is feeling confident after two podium finishes last time out, and Maidstone's Scott Smart on the Hawk Kawasaki.

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'Fleet have put us on football map'

EBBSFLEET United's appearance in the FA Trophy final at Wembley put the club and the area on the map, according to Kent FA chief Barry Bright.

The Fleet took on Torquay United in the club's first ever appearance at the national stadium on Saturday and Bright believes Ebbsfleet are the winners, whatever the outcome.

He said: "It has been an unbelievable year for Ebbsfleet FC. The whole Ebbsfleet concept, together with the website takeover, has now washed across the country because of the final."

"Commercially for Gravesham, it is really important. It has really put Ebbsfleet on the map. I guess that is the power of football."

"For the town and borough of Gravesham it was a fantastic occasion and for people like acting chairman Brian Kilcullen who has worked tirelessly for the club, I am so happy for him and his board."

"I really hope it will make young people in Gravesham want to play football and try to emulate players in the Ebbsfleet squad."

The Kent FA chief, who is also vice-chairman of the Football Association, thinks the Fleet's rise has been a bright spot for the county this season.

He said: "We have had a season of ups and downs in



GLORY DAYS: Ebbsfleet's Wembley final put the area on the map, says Kent FA chief Barry Bright (inset)

Kent football. We had Dover and Dartford who did so well in gaining promotion, while Gillingham and Folkestone Invicta were relegated and I really feel for those clubs and their supporters."

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Jones calls on Gills to bounce right back

Positive thinking will beat relegation blues

By DAVID PRITCHARD

GILLINGHAM'S relegation into League Two will not pose the club any large financial problems, according to the club's new chief executive Mark Jones.

Defeat at Leeds last weekend ended a miserable season for Gills and finally condemned them to the fourth tier of English football for the first time in 13 seasons.

Playing in the basement division, they now face games against unglamorous sides such as Morecambe and Accrington Stanley.

As a League Two side, Gills will receive less money from the Football League and are less likely to have games televised, a lucrative source of income. But Jones, who began his new role last month, told Kent on Sunday he believes the club will not suffer financially.

He said: "There is a small difference in going from League One to League Two in terms of the income from the league. It's not that big and I feel we will be able to get there with bigger gates and a stronger playing side which will help us next year."

"I think we will be near the top end of League Two – if not win it. I think if we are playing well and success is what we are up to, then people will want to see a winning side,



DETERMINED: Mark Jones is optimistic

they prefer it and I think we will get back to where we should be."

Jones has around 20 years' experience in the commercial side of sport, including stints at Coventry City and Lingfield Park racecourse. He has taken on the day-to-day running of Gills' business operations, giving chairman Paul Scally time to find investors for the club's new stadium plans from his base in Dubai.

Decisions on transfers and contracts on the playing side will still be handled by Scally.

While Jones insists financially the club could sustain a prolonged spell in League Two, he believes for the sake of the fans it is impera-

tive they bounce straight back. He said: "It's important as the main Kent-based club that we can do that, it should be an ambition. We were very close this year and I think it's important for everyone to get behind the team and for us to play well. If we could bounce back that would be tremendous."

Jones is overseeing a restructuring process within the club to make it more efficient and profitable, but is clear that relegation will not lead to job losses.

He already has plans to raise extra income by starting a club lottery and is looking at ways to bolster the club's merchandising arm.

The Gills' megastore can be quiet during the week with little passing trade. To solve this Jones is exploring ways to get the products out to a broader market, including the possibility of new stores elsewhere or a mobile shop.

Despite the failure on the pitch last season, he is excited about the future.

He said: "I have worked in bigger clubs in bigger conurbations but I think the potential here is enormous. I think there is an opportunity now to go to a new venue and build a bigger business than what is already built today."

"That's what is now required and now we have to get back into League One and then the Championship, which is really where we should be."

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FRONT: Simeon Jackson needs a partner

Stimson on the look out for strikers

A STRIKER with physical presence tops Gillingham boss Mark Stimson's summer transfer wish-list, with several targets already lined up.

Forwards Leroy Griffiths and Georges Ba were among a group of six players who were told their contracts would not be renewed this week, leaving the squad light up front.

Simeon Jackson, a £150,000 January signing, is expected to be a first team regular in League Two next term but the pacy striker needs a partner.

Stimson said: "I have one or two targets in mind. I'm looking for a big striker with physical presence ideally."

"We would love to get it sorted out early in the summer but we'll have to wait and see."

Kevin Maher was among the group who left the club. With his loan deal expired he returned to Southend United but Stimson, who has made no secret that he is a fan of the cultured midfielder, has not ruled out bringing him back.

The 31-year-old is contracted at Roots Hall beyond the summer, which makes it very difficult for Gills to sign him permanently. However, if Maher continues to remain on the sidelines at the Shrimpers, there may be a chance to bring him back on another loan deal.

Davis' high hopes

BRITISH Rally Championship contender Stefan Davis is hoping that joining the newly-formed Canary Wharf Rally team will bring home the title this year.

The Maidstone driver was denied the Super 1600 title last year after a timing error meant he arrived at the final stage of the Wales Rally of Great Britain too late, and was disqualified.

Davis, who ran his Ford Puma on his own last year, now has the help of the Canary Wharf Rally team for this year's championship.

However, in the first round of the series earlier this month, a mechanical failure cost him a points finish.

The next round of the championship is the Jim Clark International on May 25.

Clewlów hopes for an Olympic upset

CANTERBURY hockey star Mel Clewlów believes Great Britain will relish their underdog status when they compete at the Beijing Olympics.

The draw for the tournament was made this week, with Britain in a tough group alongside defending champions Germany and Argentina, who are ranked number two in the world.

Japan, New Zealand and the United States complete the six-team pool.

Britain are the third-lowest ranked team in the tournament but Clewlów, who played at Sydney 2000 in their last Olympic appearance, believes the draw gives the team a chance to exceed expectations.

She told Kent on Sunday: "The old cliché is it doesn't matter about the draw but personally I'm glad we don't have the Chinese or Koreans in our group. Those two will know how to deal with the conditions better than anyone."

"At the moment Britain is slightly behind but there's no reason why we can't go there and surprise a few people. The other teams probably think if we finish in the top six we will have done well but a cheeky 1-0 win out of the blue and anything can happen."

The team will step up their preparations with two matches against Argentina in Reading next week before warm-up tournaments in Ireland and Holland.

In February they spent a month acclimatising in Australia. Britain lost all five matches against the highly-rated Hockeyroos, but Clewlów insists it was a valuable trip.

The 24-woman squad, which also includes Clewlów's club mate Hayley Brown, train three times a week at Bisham Abbey in Berkshire.

Former Canterbury coach Danny Kerry faces the task of trimming the squad down to 16 for the Olympics.



IMPROVEMENT: Mel Clewlów is ready for the Olympics

Bad luck plagues Reeves

ISLE of Man TT contender, Tim Reeves, had a trouble-filled weekend in the opening round of the British F2 Championship coming away without a single point.

A number of engine failures hampered the Ashford-born rider at Cadwell Park, destroying a solid qualifying session that saw him secure second spot, just seven hundredths of a second from pole.

The three-time world sidcar champion and passenger Patrick Farrance did not make the start for the first race as the engine failed minutes before the race.

The pair fixed the problem and were on the starting line for race two, but mid-way



through, a burnt out clutch forced them into early retirement from second spot.

With just a month to go to the Isle of Man TT, Reeves will be taking part in the Jurby races on the Isle of Man prior to the start of TT practice week later this month.

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Byrne claws through pack to top podium after Shakey start **70**



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Sport

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FOOTBALL

Let's bounce right back up, Jones urges Gills **71**

HERE COMES MORE GOLD



County expects London Paralympics training boost after Olympics honour

By DAVID PRITCHARD

KENT is in line to repeat its success of hosting Olympic training camps by topping the list when the London 2012 Paralympic sites are announced this week.

When the London Organising Committee (LOCOG) unveiled a list of 630 venues suitable for pre-Olympic camps in March, Kent secured more nominations than any other county, with 36.

LOCOG are expected to announce the list for the Paralympics in London on Tuesday. It will then go into a guide which will be distributed to all national Olympic associations at the Beijing Games this summer.

The 201 national bodies will use the guide to decide where to send their athletes for pre-event training camps.

Paddy Herlihy, south east co-ordinator for the 2012 games, believes Kent will again be one of the top-rated counties.

He told Kent on Sunday: "I am confident that as a region we will do very well and within that the same goes for Kent."

"We had almost as many applications as with the Olympic training camps. I was very pleased that we had several applications from venues which only wanted to host Paralympic athletes."

In an unprecedented move, LOCOG will award £25,000 to each association coming to the UK for Paralympic training camps. The money will be spent on things like hiring facilities, transport and accommodation, giving a boost to the local economy.

The Paralympics is the second largest multi-sport event in the world behind the Olympics, with 3,800 athletes from 136 countries competing across six disability classes at the last games in Athens.

Two athletes from Kent have already booked their place for Beijing.

Swimmer Dervis Konuralp, from Dartford, will be competing in his fourth games, while 20-year-old table tennis star Will Bayley from Tunbridge Wells will be making his first appearance.

Herlihy explained that one of the key priorities for the 2012 games is to increase disabled people's participation in sport.

He said: "They are still under-represented in sport and much less likely to take part. We plan to take the best to the Paralympics."



Picture: GETTY IMAGES

UP FOR IT: Dartford's Dervis Konuralp will compete at the Paralympics in Beijing this year. His home county could play host to training camps for the 2012 London Games

"You could not do that with the Olympics, there is not enough time. But that is not the case with the Paralympics. People come through and develop much more quickly."

"There is the unfortunate situation where fit and healthy people suddenly become disabled. We intend to find those people. Even if they don't go to the Paralympics, they have got active again."

The Great Britain team historically does well at the Paralympics. They finished second in the table at the last two games, winning 94 medals at Athens. Their haul of 35 golds dwarfed the nine won in the Olympics.

Alastair McKean, who looks set to appear at Beijing in adaptive rowing, is frustrated by the low profile disabled sport has, despite the success. The Herne Bay Rowing Club member is on course to appear at the games

in the coxed fours alongside Deal's James Morgan. McKean said: "Unfortunately, there's not the same money in disabled sport. More money means more publicity and events. It would be nice to see the media giving it a bit more attention. We win masses of gold medals, but I think the public generally want to see able-bodied winners."

Mike Bishop, manager of disabled sport at Kent's Sport Development Unit, agrees it is a problem but believes the gap is narrowing.

He said: "I don't think the athletes have the profile they deserve, but the media coverage is improving."

For the latest news on the announcement see www.kentnews.co.uk next week.

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